Hafa Adai!

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Judge finds probable cause to charge man who threw machete at cop. PAGE 3

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AS LUHK SISTERS' DISAPPEARANCE ENTERS 7TH YEAR TOMORROW

FBI vows to exhaust all leads

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Family offers Mass of Remembrance

Another Mass of Remembrance for missing sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk will be held at the Sta. Soledad Church in Kagman tomorrow, Friday, which marks the seventh year of the children's mysterious disappearance in As Teo.

Elbert Quitugua, the grandfather of the Luhk sisters, said yesterday that the family is offering the Mass for special intention or remembrance at 6pm.

As this developed, FBI special agent Arnold Laanui said yesterday that the Luhk sisters' case is still open and under investigation by the FBI.

See FBI on Page 4

'TPS termination not a cause of concern'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

RELATED NEWS

➤ Re-registration period now open for TPS for Nepal PAGE 5

A former official of the Nepalese community in the CNMI said they are not at all worried after U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced on Tuesday that they are terminating the designation of Temporary Protected Status for all of its citizens effective in June next year.

USCIS' TPS designation for Nepal and its citizens will expire on June 24, 2018.

See TPS on Page 4

'CW has no effect in entire US'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion believes federal authorities in Washington, D.C. should be further educated on the current situation of the CW program, being a specific visa classification reserved only for the CNMI.

The CW visa, or the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Nonimmigrant visa, allows foreign nationals temporary but renewable work permits for one year only in the three main islands of the Commonwealth—Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

See CW on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Tourists take turns in having their photos taken at the Saipan signage located at the side of the road that's going to Bird Island and Grotto in Marpi. Labor issues in the CNMI could have a direct impact to the tourism industry, which is the main source of funds for the islands.

INSIDE

BUSINESS
British Airways, Lufthansa and Air Canada are among 20 carriers that now refer to Taiwan, the self-ruled island that Beijing considers its territory.
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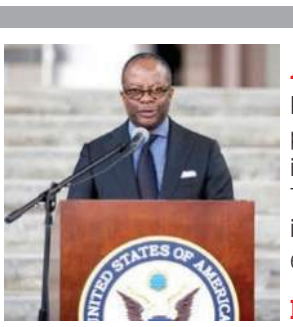

ASIA
President Nicolas Maduro expelled the top U.S. diplomat in Venezuela and his deputy Tuesday for allegedly conspiring against the socialist government.
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LIFE & STYLE
Ariana Grande shared a message of hope with fans Tuesday as dignitaries, survivors, first responders and the people of Manchester.
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Local

8 ACS graduates off to Pensacola Christian College

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Eight of the 12 senior graduates of Agape Christian School chose to pursue their college education in the coming semester at Pensacola Christian College, including Class of 2018 salutatorian Deborah Cai.

ACS held its 11th Commencement Exercises and Graduation Ceremony last Monday night at the school's main hall where 13 students from their middle school are moving up to high school, while six K5 graduates will enter the first grade next school year.

Cai will be taking up Computer Science and Mathematics as her major at PCC, a Christian and independent Baptist college in Pensacola City in Florida's northwestern region or the Panhandle.

Tianen Feng (Computer Science and Software Engineering), Yishen Li (Pre-Physical Therapy), Kun Lu (Mechanical Engineering), Shiyan Rui (Accounting), Xuan Xing (Nursing), Shengai Yang (Secondary Education), and Tianbo Zhang (Graphic Design) will also be incoming freshmen at PCC.

Dawei Cai
High School Valedictorian

Deborah Cai
High School Salutatorian

Kevin Tang
Middle School Valedictorian

Silas Xu
Middle School Valedictorian

Victoria Parnes Ancheta
Middle School Salutatorian

Yanglei Ou
K5 First Honor

Benjamin Cai Jieming
K5 Second Honor

Bill Wang Sujin
K5 Third Honor

ACS senior administrator Rev. Pastor Koh Pang said most of their students usually go to PCC due to its low tuition. "It's not a partnership between our schools but because PCC has one of the lowest tuition per semester."

"It is a respected institution that has a solid academic program. Their nursing program is also among the top in the U.S. and it's one of the leading Christian schools in the East Coast," added Pang, who is also the Calvary International Mission president.

Class valedictorian Dawei Cai's next destination is Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina where he'll major in Health Science and Biblical Studies, while Xile Lyu is also going to the BJU Bruins' home, taking up Elementary Education and Bible Studies.

Lucy Gu Chengming will be studying Humanities and Social Science at the Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, while Yangzhou Su was accepted at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan where she'll be majoring in Biology as her pre-dentistry.

New journey

Former ACS teacher Aaron Engelhardt was the keynote speaker where he addressed the graduates that they are about to move to another phase from their lives. "Some of you are feeling fear and anxiety since going out there is the next big step."

"But, you should celebrate on what you've accomplished for you worked hard for it and sacrificed a lot. You've reached a milestone and this marks the end of your high school life," said Engelhardt.

"The next chapter is a big one. You are about to embark on a new journey and you've been preparing for what's ahead," added Engelhadt, who then told the graduates that he went backpacking after college.

"I decided to go on a backpack trip after finishing college. Just a short break before I join the workforce. I was not an experienced backpacker

See GRADUATES on Page 4

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ON ISSUE WHETHER THERE ARE REGS AS TO PARKING VIOLATIONS

Judge wants DPW secretary, DPS and DFEMS commissioners to testify

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court yesterday instructed the Office of the Attorney General to subpoena the secretary of the Department of Public Works and the commissioners of the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, or their designees, to appear in court and testify as to the issue of legal authority and regulations to issue citations for parking violations.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered OAG to summon the DPW secretary and the DPS and DFEMS commissioners to appear and provide testimony on May 30 at 10:30am at the U.S. District Court for the NMI Courthouse.

Camacho issued such order after the matter of parking violation regulations was raised by atty. Steven P. Pixley, who is counsel for Ronald E. Biggers, in a traffic case.

Biggers, who is co-owner of Godfathers Bar, is charged by citation alleging a parking violation in Garapan.

At a bench trial yesterday, assistant attorney general Frances Demapan, counsel for the government, called one witness, DPS police officer Bradford Peter.

During Pixley's cross-examination of Peter, some issues came up regarding the traffic code and regulations.

Peter testified that DPS and Fire personnel are able to write/give citations to those who violate the traffic code.

Peter also testified that he did not have any knowledge if regulations have been promulgated.

After Pixley was done with his cross-examination of the officer, Demapan rested the government's case.

Pixley then made an oral motion for judgment of acquittal.

Camacho found that the issues raised whether there are regulations as to parking violations have far-reaching ramifications beyond Biggers' case.

Therefore, Camacho set an evidentiary hearing to hear testimony in order to address the issues related Biggers' motion for judgment of acquittal.

Camacho said the parties may also subpoena additional witnesses if they so desire.

The judge instructed Pixley to put in writing defendant's motion for judgment of acquittal.

Judge finds probable cause to charge man who threw machete at cop

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found probable cause on Tuesday to charge a 22-year-old man accused of burglarizing a house in Chinatown and throwing a machete at a police officer.

» 1 of alleged victims is attorney Robert T. Torres

At a preliminary hearing, Camacho found probable cause to charge Kition Emor with assault with a dangerous weapon and two counts of disturbing the peace.

The three charges refer to Emor's throwing of machete at Police Officer Ikluk Mosayos, who responded to a reported disturbance in Chinatown last May 10, and for disturbing the peace of Ki Young Yu and Moon Hee Kwon on that same day.

Camacho also stated that he heard the testimony of two police detectives and found no probable cause to charge Emor with criminal mischief, resisting arrest, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

The judge dismissed without prejudice the four charges, which means that the Office of the Attorney General may re-file the charges.

The four charges refer to Emor's alleged breaking of the windows and a sliding door of a property belonging to attorney Robert Torres, obstructing police officers in the discharge of their duty by trying to run away, and for threatening to kill Masayos, and for disturbing the peace of Steven Koch in the presence of a child.

Camacho

Saipan Tribune learned that it's the house of Torres' sister-in-law and it is being rented out. Torres is the one handling the rentals for his sister-in-law and her husband while they are off-island.

After the preliminary hearing, Emor was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections. Arraignment will be on June 4 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Robert "Charlie" Lee appeared for the government. Chief public defender Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Emor.

According to police detective Ernest Sablan Jr. in his report, last May 10 at 12:59am, a police officer was dispatched to Freedom Drive in Chinatown due to a reported disturbance.

When the officer arrived at a residence, he felt an object fly by him and noticed it was a machete.

A man, who was identified as Emor, was standing on the roof of the house. He was shouting at the officer with bad words and challenging him to get him.

Other officers then arrived at the scene. Emor jumped down onto the tailgate of a Toyota Tacoma and then down to the ground.

Emor tried to run away, but one officer grabbed him. Three other officers assisted in arresting him.

A woman guided the officers to her house, where she showed the windows in the garage, the window by the stairs, and the sliding door outside the back of the house, which Emor allegedly damaged to get inside.

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8 cases of scarlet fever reported on Saipan

There has been an increase in scarlet fever cases recently with the Public Health and Hospital Emergency Preparedness Program's weekly surveillance report showing eight cases of the bacterial infection.

Last year, there were only two cases of scarlet fever on the island.

Below is the community information and guidance on scarlet fever.

What is scarlet fever?

Scarlet fever is a bacterial infection caused by Group A Streptococcus infection. This is the same type of bacteria that causes Strep throat.

Who gets scarlet fever?

Scarlet fever usually affects children between the age of 5 and 15 years old.

Is scarlet fever contagious?

Yes. The bacteria can be spread through contact with droplets from an infected person's cough or sneeze. You can also get infected from drinking the same glass or eating from the same plate as a sick person.

What are the symptoms of scarlet fever?

- A very red, sore throat
- A fever (101° F or above)
- A red rash with a sandpaper feel
- Bright red skin in the creases of the underarm, elbow, and groin
- A whitish coating on the tongue
- A "strawberry" (red and bumpy) tongue
- Swollen glands in the neck

Other general symptoms include:

- Headache or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain

What should I do with my child has these symptoms?

You should keep your child at home and bring the child to see a doctor right away. The doctor might need to take a swab of the throat and test the swab for infection. If the test is positive, then the child will need to be started on antibiotics.

If my child is diagnosed with scarlet fever when can he/she return to school?

Your child is no longer infectious after being on antibiotics for at least 24 hours.

How can I prevent myself and my child from getting the infection?

There is no vaccine to prevent scarlet fever. The best ways from getting or spreading the bacteria are:

- Wash hands often—especially after coughing, sneezing, or before preparing foods.
- Wash glasses, utensils and plates after someone who is sick with confirmed scarlet fever uses them. Best not to sure utensils, plates.
- Stay home from work, school or daycare until you no longer have a fever and have taken antibiotics for at least 24 hours

For more information, feel free to contact CHCC at (670) 234-8950, and ask to speak with the epidemiologist, Dr. Paul White, or medical director of Public Health, Dr. Phuong Luu. ***(PR)***

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SNILD OK's $3.3M funding measure, including funds for generator

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation in their session last week at the House chamber on Capitol Hill passed a funding measure costing about $3.3 million.

The measure included funding for a generator for the CNMI Legislative building on Capitol Hill, which was ravaged by blackouts that disrupted meetings all throughout last Friday and Thursday.

The $3.3 million is derived from the revenues collected from annual pachinko slot and poker machine annual local licensing fees for fiscal year 2018.

The delegation appropriated $1.7 million to the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, or SHEFA, with $220,000 allocated for their personnel and operations; $30,000 for the Saipan Little League; $84,000 for the Commonwealth Zoning Board; $265,000 for the Saipan Mayor's Office's operations; $135,000 to the Northern Islands Mayor's Office for boat charters, operations and maintenance, repairs and renovations of municipal buildings, offices, and capital equipment, and more.

A total of $310,000 will be distributed to each precinct with Precinct I getting $85,000 for the paving and construction of Aluu Drive and road bumps on Essok Avenue; $50,000 for the renovation and upgrade of the Susupe Manhoben Center in Precinct II; $75,000 to Precinct III for drainage improvements and more; $50,000 for Precinct IV's upgrading and refurbishing of their basketball courts and for the construction of a road bump on St. Lourdes Dr. and Mamati Lp. in San Roque; and $50,000 for the upgrade of the Kagman II basketball courts.

Another $120,000 is appropriated to the Liberation Day activities; $30,000 for the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival; $23,000 for the Voices of the CNMI Saipan Chapter for their participation at the 2018 Self Advocacy Being Empowered in Alabama; $5,000 for the Saipan International Fishing Derby; $125,000 for the Drug Court for treatment and operations; $100,000 for the Northern Marianas Trades Institute for their operations and personnel; and $100,000 for the Legislative Bureau, with $70,000 going to the purchase of a generator system and payment for the layout design, $30,000 for operations, and $25,000 for the CNMI High School Mock Trial Program.

Senate supports bill to create new hire directory

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Senate during their session last week in the Senate chamber on Capitol Hill unanimously passed a bill that creates a State Directory of New Hires for the CNMI.

In its session last week, the Senate unanimously supported Senate President Arnold I. Palacios' (R-Saipan) Senate Bill 20-64, which seeks to create a state directory of new hires as federally mandated for each state and territory.

The state directory of new hires was intended to assist the Child Support Enforcement Office to "more effectively enforce the child support obligations of non-custodial parents," the bill specified.

The bill mandates employers—both private and public—to report the dates of hiring or rehiring of an employee to the director of new hires, or the NMI attorney general or his designee within the Child Support Enforcement Office.

The bill also mandates employers to report an initial list of all its current employees to the director of new hires, as well as report any resignations, terminations, or furloughing of employees.

S.B. 20-64 punishes employers who fail to report the listed requirements with a written notice of non-compliance. If an employer is issued a second written notice of non-compliance, then the employer is subject to a penalty of $25 for each intentionally unreported employee and $500 for each intentionally unreported employee if the failure to report is a result of "conspiracy between the employer and employee not to supply the required report or to supply a false or incomplete report."

The date obtained from this bill may only be accessed by qualified government agencies, including the Child Support Enforcement Office for information on individuals for obligatory purposes. Other included government agencies with access to the information is the Department of Labor, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, and "any other agency administering a federal program enumerated in 42 USC§1320b-7(b)," the bill specified, citing a federal law in participation with the bill.

TPS

From Page 1

They, however, gave its nationals a one-year cushion to make sure of a smooth transition with the program formally ending on June 24, 2019.

Mahesh Thapa, a former president of the local Nepalese community, told *Saipan Tribune* that currently they are about 50 of their nationals working and residing in the CNMI from a high of more than 100 a few years ago.

"Like the CW1 program, we know that it is going to end. But we are not at all worried since one year is a sufficient time. USCIS has already announced it, so it's time to look for other options. There are other available options. So they should do their best to look for other options," said Thapa.

"A lot of our countrymen have either went back to Nepal or flew to the mainland. The ones who decided to stay here have CW status, or other visa and green card holders or have become U.S. citizens like me," added Thapa, who owns and operates Java Joe's Coffee Shop with his wife Manju.

JON PEREZ

A member of the Nepalese community performs during the San Jose Fiesta on Tinian in this file photo. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is terminating the Temporary Protected Status for all Nepalese nationals effective in June 2019.

He added that the uncertainty of the CW program was among the factors why most of their countrymen opted to leave Saipan. "They are also worried about their status. The issue is not helping our economy.

USCIS is giving Nepalese nationals a 60-day period, from May 22 to July 23 this year, to re-register for their TPS to remain valid until the June 24, 2019 termination. USCIS said it is important for Nepalese nationals who are TPS holders to re-register.

Thapa said Nepalese nationals are also eligible to apply for other U.S. eligible work visas by their employers like the EB or H1 visas.

"We're also thinking of the remaining members of our community here. So we are reminding them that one year is a sufficient time to apply for a different status and other categories. It all depends on what kind you want to apply for," he added.

Nepal was among the 10 countries that USCIS designated for TPS including El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

Nepal was designated for TPS after the devastating 7.8-magnitude earthquake that hit the country on April 25, 2015.

Nepal's designation for TPS was about to end in 2016 but former Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson gave an 18-month extension effective on Dec. 25, 2016 to June 24, 2018.

Current DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen decided to terminate Nepal's TPS designation after reviewing the country's current condition as they had already made great progress in their recovery efforts after the disaster that killed close to 9,000 people three years ago.

DHS saw that most of the basic institutions, like schools and hospitals that were destroyed or damaged, have already been rebuilt while construction efforts to other establishments and homes are near completion.

FBI

From Page 1

"After seven years, the matter has yet to be resolved and the location and condition of the Luhk sisters has yet to be determined," said Laanui in response to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comments.

Laanui said FBI special agents stationed on Saipan and Guam, as well as their law enforcement partners on both islands, continue to pursue and exhaust all leads in this matter," he said.

The FBI asks that anyone with information as to whereabouts of the sisters to come forward by contacting the FBI Saipan Office at 670-322-6934.

Quitugua said the family is ready to accept whatever the findings will be in the investigation—either his granddaughters are alive or they are "no longer with us."

"We just have to accept the fact that they have been gone for seven years now," Quitugua said.

Last Saturday, a Mass of Remembrance for the Luhk sisters was held at the St. Jude Church in Koblerville. Monsignor James L.G. Benavente, the FBI's chaplain for Guam and Saipan, served as the Mass' guest homilist.

The Luhk sisters were last seen at a public school bus shelter near their home in As Teo in the morning of May 25, 2011. A massive monthlong search was then conducted by the FBI, Department of Public Safety, other law enforcers, and volunteers on Saipan, but there was no trace of their whereabouts.

The children's mother is currently in Virginia, while their father was last reported staying in Chuuk.

CW

From Page 1

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, one of the local business groups that testified in U.S. Congress regarding the CNMI's labor issues, had already employed more U.S. workers to date.

HANMI president Gloria Cavanagh said their group as a whole only has less than 44 percent, and not more than 50 percent as was reported in the *Saipan Tribune* the other day, who are foreign workers.

"This includes visas other than CW. Many people think that we employ mostly CWs. But a large portion of our foreign workers included other visas such as H1s, L1s, and E2s," the Pacific Islands Club Saipan general manager added.

The CW program was part of the immigration reforms that was initiated in 2009 when the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 became Public Law 110-229. It also transferred the CNMI's control of immigration and labor to the federal government.

"We must make policymakers in D.C. know and realize our dilemma. We must teach them to differentiate the CNMI from all other parts of the [U.S.]," Concepcion told *Saipan Tribune*.

"At the end of the day we are completely different from any other state, territory, or commonwealth. The CW program is specific to the CNMI and by law; CW visa holders are prohibited from entering other parts of the U.S."

He added that the CW program wouldn't have any impact in the mainland U.S. when it comes to immigration and labor. "So, I don't see what's the problem with extending it [CW program] and lifting cap on workers will be since it won't affect the rest of the U.S. regardless."

"Leaders in [D.C.] need to be educated on that and greater effort needs to be made to differentiate us from others. There is no national threat to immigration by extending the CW program and lifting the cap on total workers because it is CNMI specific," he said.

CNMI government officials with local business groups have been pushing for legislation in the U.S. Congress—S. 2325 introduced by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)—in the hopes it would pass to solve the impending labor woes of the islands.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services had drastically cut the CW cap for the 2019 fiscal year from 12,998 to 4,999 after they implemented a lottery system on which applications would be approved after receiving petitions more than the numerical limit.

Concepcion said the current situation concerns the local tourism industry and at the same time lauded the efforts of the local leaders in finding a solution to the problem.

"The CW crisis is indeed concerning for the tourism industry since our industry is heavily reliant on manpower and without an adequate workforce, we can't function. We applaud Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres and other local leaders for their efforts at pushing our agenda in Washington," he said.

GRADUATES

From Page 2

and I thought that I filled my backpack, which weighed roughly 80 lbs, with all the essentials."

"I set off on my trip and it turned out I did not had the right gear. I was partially lost, experienced some dangers, and saw some bears. I realized that I should have been more prepared. You want to be prepared for the long journey of your lives."

Daiwei Cai, in his valedictory address, said sports became a huge part of his years studying at ACS. He played basketball, volleyball, and joined local running events.

"Sports had been a big part of my life in ACS aside from academics. I thank my coaches who taught me to respect everyone but fear no one. We just need to work hard and push forward. We should always know that hard work may eventually pay off and will give you good results," said Cai.

Other graduates

Kevin Tang and Silas Xu were the co-valedictorians in middle school, while Victoria Parnes Ancheta is the class Salutatorian. Susan Chen, Zhourui Han, Jianan He, Jenny Min, Dandan Jin, Zihao Li, Jiayi Lin, Meihui Lin, Saiya Wu, and Yunzhe Zhang were the other middle school graduates.

Yanglei Ou was the K5 first honor with Benjamin Cai Jieming the second honorable mention and Bill Wang Sujin the third honor. Andy Wei, Miazhou Wang, and Lin Yongjun are also moving up to the first grade.

Re-registration period now open for TPS for Nepal

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced yesterday that current beneficiaries of Temporary Protected Status under Nepal's designation who want to maintain their status through the effective termination date of June 24, 2019, must re-register between May 22, 2018, and July 23, 2018.

Nielsen

Re-registration procedures, including how to renew employment authorization documents (EADs), have been published in the Federal Register and on uscis.gov/tps.

All applicants must submit Form I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status. Applicants may also request an EAD by submitting a completed Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, at the time they file Form I-821, or separately at a later date. Both forms are free to download from the USCIS website at uscis.gov/tps.

USCIS will issue new EADs with a June 24, 2019 expiration date to eligible Nepali TPS beneficiaries who timely re-register and apply for EADs. Given the timeframes involved with processing TPS re-registration applications, however, USCIS recognizes that not all re-registrants will receive new EADs before their current EADs expire on June 24, 2018. Accordingly, USCIS has automatically extended the validity of EADs issued and currently valid under the TPS designation of Nepal for 180 days, through Dec. 21, 2018.

On April 26, 2018, Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen M. Nielsen announced that the statutory conditions supporting Nepal's TPS designation on the basis of an environmental disaster are no longer met and terminating the designation was required by statute. Secretary Nielsen made her decision after reviewing country conditions and consulting with appropriate U.S. government agencies. To allow time for an orderly transition, she delayed the effective date of the termination for 12 months from the current expiration date of June 24, 2018. As a result of the delayed effective date, Nepal's TPS designation will end on June 24, 2019.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, visit uscis.gov or follow us on Twitter (@uscis), YouTube (/uscis), and Facebook (/uscis). ***(PR)***

McPhetres was first NMC president

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The very first Northern Marianas College, according to previous records, was in fact Catherine J. Porter was the first president of NMC. However, according to official documents, Porter was in fact the first and last president of the Northern Marianas Community College, which was established March 1981.

» Porter was first and last NMCC president

When the late former U.S. president Gerald Ford signed the Covenant establishing the political union between the CNMI and the U.S., he first appointed Edwin D. Canham as "resident commissioner" for the NMI.

McPhetres

Canham then issued a proclamation establishing the NMCC in August 1976, and was later revoked after a feasibility study and the issuance of Executive Order No. 25 by the first NMI governor Carlos S. Camacho.

EO 25 officially established NMCC within the former Department of Education, which was also under the control and supervision of the Board of Education then, while also mandating the community college to organize and administer all postsecondary programs in the CNMI and the responsibility of seeking accreditation, which was contracted to Bill Kinder of Washington, D.C. to assist Porter, who was then coordinating all postsecondary external programs and training as NMCC dean.

Porter's position was later changed to NMCC president in 1982 after Kinder and her recommendation to the NMCC board of regents in anticipation of the visit of an accrediting body, which then recommended that NMCC be established by law and that it function under a fully independent board apart from the BOE.

In 1983, the late former governor Pedro P. Tenorio signed into law Public Law 3-43 which established NMC with its own independent Board of Regents, which then immediately initiated the search for the first NMC president, which would eventually be McPhetres late July 1983.

NMC achieved accreditation soon after.

JGO in a previous meeting amended Demapan's H.B. 20-133 to reflect that McPhetres was not the first president of NMC, which according to the documents, is not factual.

After reaching out to JGO chair Blanco, he confirmed that they adopted to keep the original language that McPhetrers was the first president of NMC, while Porter was the first and last president of NMCC.

The revelation came up after the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee led by chair Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) amended House Speaker Rafael Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-133.

It was believed during the JGO meeting last Tuesday at the Speaker's Conference Room on Capitol Hill that

10 companies go head-to-head in 2018 Corporate Challenge:

Ten company teams have signed up to compete for the title of Saipan Chamber of Commerce Corporate Challenge Champions for 2018. Going head-to-head are Pacific Islands Club, D&Q Warriors, IT&E Cobalt Explorers, BankPacific, Triple J, N15 Architects, Imperial Pacific, and Bank of Saipan. And of course, back to defend their titles are Delta Management Corp.'s Delta Force who were named 2017 Spirit Award recipients and Marianas Pacific Distributors who are the defending first place champions.

This year's theme is "Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges." The recent labor issues have put a strain not only on the islands' businesses but also on its valued employees.

"We have put our people to the test: training, retraining, displacing, and replacing them. With the constant changes within our workforce, now more than ever, employees need the opportunity for unity, togetherness, and camaraderie. This event will celebrate our employees' resiliency and ability to 'break barriers' and 'build bridges' toward a brighter future for each of our companies," said the Chamber.

The 18th Annual Corporate Challenge will be held on Sunday, May 27, 2018, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe. The event will feature games that promote team-building and corporate wellness. The winners will be announced immediately following the day's activities. A raffle drawing will also be held. The Chamber extends a sincere thank you to this year's sponsors Saipan Shipping Co, Inc., Pacific Islands Club, Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Kanoa Resort, Hyatt Regency, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Let's Go Tour Company, The Shack Saipan, D&Q Saipan, Strategic Gaming Solutions dba Club C, 360 Revolving Restaurant, and Kan Pacific.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit organization with over 165 member businesses which is aligned to make a difference in the business community of our island. All businesses are welcome to apply for membership. The office is located at the Marianas Business Plaza Suite 315, 3rd Floor. For more information, please call 234-7150 or e-mail administrator@saipanchamber.com for more information or visit www.saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The 18th Anual Corporate Challenge will be held on Sunday, May 27, 2018, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe.

OIA announces support of JSA Program for students from US-affiliated islands

WASHINGTON—Doug Domenech, Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs, yesterday announced $400,000 in funding support for the Junior State of America (JSA) program (formerly the Junior Statesmen of America) for students from the U.S. territories and the freely associated states.

"The Junior State for America Foundation helps educate and prepare high school students for lifelong involvement and responsible leadership with the goal of strengthening American democracy and democratic principles in young leaders," said Assistant Secretary Domenech. "We encourage these same principles for the students in the island areas and believe all youth—whether from the island areas or the 50 states—benefit mutually from exchanges and learning from one another."

Domenech

Through this program, four students from each insular area will attend a three-week summer school program on the campuses of Georgetown, Princeton, or Stanford where they develop reading, writing, leadership, and speaking skills. Funding also supports a one-week academic preparation and community project program for 65 students in the insular areas and promotes political education as well as development of local JSA chapters in the islands.

The Assistant Secretary Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees Federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA supports the Secretary's mission of Fulfilling Trust and Insular Responsibilities through balancing efforts and limited resources towards stronger economic and health capacities, and fiscal accountability in the U.S. insular areas. ***(PR)***

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) CNMI Chapter invites you to earn up to 8 hours of CPE credits.

Topics to discuss:

- Various Characteristics of the Fraudster
- Ethics and AICPA Integrity/Independence Update
- Leadership and Effective Teams
- Effective Writing for Accountants and Auditors
- Plop, Plop, Fizz, Fizz - Fraud in Government

Venue: Hyatt Regency Saipan (Regency Ballroom)
Date: June 8, 2018
Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Registration Fee: $175.00 Per Person Including Lunch

To register please contact Juvilyn Sablan @ 670-322-7337 or email jsablan@deloitte.com or glendacabrera@deloitte.com

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Friday, May 25, 2018 8:00am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Board's Conference Room, Capitol Hill.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order

II. Determination of Quorum

III. Review and Adoption of Agenda

IV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.
A. Consideration of application for Physician License #0608

V. Announcements
A. Next Meeting Date
B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH
Chairman

2018 GOVERNOR'S TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS PRIZES

Championship Flight	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
4th Place	Casio Watch
5th Place	$100 DFS Gift Certificate
"A" Flight	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
4th Place	Casio Watch
5th Place	$100 DFS Gift Certificate
"B" Flight	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
4th Place	Casio Watch
5th Place	$100 DFS Gift Certificate
"C" Flight	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
4th Place	Casio Watch
5th Place	$100 DFS Gift Certificate
Seniors Flight	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
4th Place	Casio Watch
5th Place	$100 DFS Gift Certificate
Super Seniors	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
4th Place	Casio Watch
5th Place	$100 DFS Gift Certificate
Ladies Low Gross	
1st Place	Trophy + $500.00
2nd Place	Trophy + $400.00
3rd Place	Trophy + $300.00
Ladies Low Net	
1st Place	Trophy
2nd Place	Trophy
3rd Place	Trophy

HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZES

2018 HYUNDAI KONA
Sponsored by TRIPLE J MOTORS

$5,000 CASH
Sponsored by PACIFICA INSURANCE

[1] Round Trip Ticket to anywhere Asiana fly except USA
Sponsored by ASIANA AIRLINES

2017 HONDA CIVIC
Sponsored by JOETEN MOTORS

$5,000 CASH
Sponsored by MCDONALD'S SAIPAN

[1] Round Trip Ticket to Guangzhou or Shanghai
Sponsored by SAIPAN TRAVEL INC.

2018 TOYOTA C-HR HYBRID
Sponsored by ATKINS KROLL

1 Year FREE Golf
Sponsored by LAOLAO BAY GOLF & RESORT

$1,000 - KP
17 yo and 21 yo land on the green raffle
Sponsored by TOC-CHIVAS

PLATINUM

DFS | GALLERIA | LAOLAO BAY GOLF & RESORT | MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY | The Marianas | Saipan | Tinian | Rota | CHIVAS

GOLD

NIKEGOLF | TRIPLE J MOTORS NEW CARS · USED CARS · PARTS · SERVICE | SORENSEN MEDIA GROUP | Joeten Motors POWERED BY YOU | CHONG'S CORPORATION | HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN | IT&E | pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. Rest Assured. | SCS Saipan Computer Services | IDEAL SIGNS | Tan Holdings | Tan Siu Lin Foundation | BRIDGE CAPITAL LLC | RNV CONSTRUCTION | AK TOYOTA Let's Go Places

SILVER

THE WINE SHOP AT DFS · GLIMPSES OF GUAM · ASIANA AIRLINES · DOCOMO PACIFIC · MARIANAS VARIETY · IP&E

BRONZE

CALVO'S INSURANCE · CHELU PHOTOS · MAYHAN INDUSTRY · FIRST HAWAIIAN BANK · HANS TRADE CORPORATION (STELLA CATERING)
FIESTA RESORT & SPA · HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY · EMPRESS INC · SAIPAN TRAVEL INC. · TOP DEVELOPMENT INC.
KAUTZ GLASS · MARIANAS NONI · GPPC · KEOSAN INDUSTRIAL CORP. · ISLAND TRAINING SOLUTIONS · PIC

GENERAL

NMC · CARGO EXPRESS · JET HOLDINGS · SAIPAN SHIPPING · T&G REF AND AIRCON · JC TENORIO ENT. · MARIANAS PRINTING · HARD ROCK CAFÉ
TRIPLE B FORWARDERS · HERMES BOUTIQUE · ACE HARDWARE · KOREA HARWARE · PACIFIC HARDWARE · KAN PACIFIC SAIPAN LTD. · SAIPAN ICE & WATER CO.

Any question, please call Marie Sablan: 236-2572 or Marida Pensader: 236-2530

Joeten Motors offers Honda Civic as TOC hole-in-one prize

The organizers of 2018 Governor's Tournament of Champions have announced that Joeten Motors is offering a brand new Honda Civic as a hole-in-one prize for the 23rd Governor's Tournament of Champions, which will be held this Saturday and Sunday, May 26, and 27, 2018.

"Joeten Motors has always been a great supporter of the Tournament of Champions and the benefits the event provides to the community," said Joeten Motors general manager Matt Deets. "We wish all the players luck at this weekend's tournament."

"Joeten Motors' Honda Civic hole-in-one prize raises the anticipation and excitement for this year's Tournament of Champions," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "We are extremely thankful for the company's donation and for its longstanding commitment to the Tournament."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Yasmin Miles, Joeten Motors sales consultant; Dora Lizama, TOC Committee member; Marie Sablan, TOC Committee member; Calvin Yamagishi, Joeten Motors Service manager; Ray Alvarez, Joeten Motors Sales manager; Maria Pensader, TOC Committee member; and Matt Deets, Joeten Motors general manager.

The 23rd Governor's Tournament of Champions will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort's east and west courses on May 26 and 27. The two-day event is bigger and better than ever with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes. The TOC tournament fee is $200.

Winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Super Senior flights will each receive $500 cash, $400 cash, $300 cash, a Casio watch, and $100 DFS gift certificate for the first to fifth place, respectively. The Ladies Low Gross winners will receive $500, $400, and $300 cash for first to third place, respectively. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will each receive a trophy.

There will be hundreds of thousands worth of prizes that will be at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-in-one prizes that include a brand new 2018 Hyundai Kona donated by Triple J Motors, a brand new 2017 Honda Civic donated by Joeten Motors, a $5,000 hole in-one cash prize donated by Pacifica Insurance, $5,000 hole-in-one cash prize donated by McDonalds of Saipan, one year free golf donated by Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, one round-trip ticket to anywhere in Asia donated by Asiana Airlines, and one round-trip ticket to Guangzhou or Shanghai, China donated by Saipan Travel, Inc. There will also be thousands of dollars worth in other prizes that include mobile devices, gift certificates, and more.

Platinum Sponsors for the Governor's Tournament of Champions include T Galleria, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Marianas Visitor's Authority, and Chivas Regal.

Gold Sponsors include Nike Golf, Triple J Motors, Power 99, IT&E, Pacifica Insurance, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Joeten Motors, Saipan Computer Services, Tan Holdings, MC-Donald's, Chong's Corporation, Bridge Capital, RNV Construction, and Northern Marianas College.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for the 2018 TOC, contact Marie Sablan at 236-2572 or Marida Pensader at 236- 2530. For player information and to download the registration form, visit www.tocSaipan.com. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hans Mickleson, IT&E Sales & Marketing manager, far left; and Rob Harrel, IT&E executive director of Customer Operations, far right, present the $5,000 in cash check and in-kind donations to the Governor's Tournament of Champions' Committee members.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chong's Corp. president Joanna Pai, center, presents the $5,000 check donation to the Governor's Tournament of Champions Committee members. Also in photo are representatives from Chong's Corp.

CNMI receives funding to support Emergency Food and Shelter Programs

The Northern Mariana Islands Emergency Food and Shelter Local Board has been chosen to receive $77,220 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the CNMI.

The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America, The Salvation Army; and, United Way Worldwide.

The local board will determine how the funds awarded to the CNMI are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The local board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the national board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive Federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact John Hirsh, local board chair at 234-3459 for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is May 25, 2018. ***(PR)***

JKPL to offer summer ukulele class

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library registration for Beginner and Advance Ukulele Class is ongoing at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. The minimum age requirement is open to children ages 8 years or older and adults. The total cost for eight class sessions is $50. Ukulele classes are held at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in partnership with ukulele instructor Larry Lee and son Kui Lee. The deadline to register is Saturday, June 2, 2018.

The JKPL ukulele class is based on "First come; first paid." Students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets (plastic sheet protectors and a three-ring binder are recommended). Parents/guardians mist sign a liability waiver form on behalf of their participating children and must adhere to public library policies and procedures. For questions regarding ukulele class, call Celina Foreman or Victoria Cabrera at 235-7315/7322 during regular library hours. Disclaimer: class dates are subject to change, unless otherwise specified.

For the latest library news and events, please visit our website www.cnmilib.org or like/visit joeten kiyu on facebook. The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library regular hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday-Friday (from 10am to 6pm), Saturday (9am to 4pm), Sundays, Mondays, and holidays closed. ***(PR)***

Bordallo joins colleagues in assembling care packages

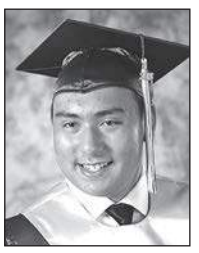
WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday joined her colleagues and Congressional staffers in assembling care packages for deployed servicemembers. The event was hosted by the USO and USO Congressional Caucus, of which Bordallo is a member.

"These care packages bring a little bit of home to our servicemembers deployed around the world. I am always happy to participate in assembling them, and I know they mean so much to our troops as they carry out their mission. I am grateful for the sacrifices they and their families make to our nation every day. I also thank the USO for its consistent support of our servicemembers and their families, and providing them with an invaluable connection to home." ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo joins her colleagues and Congressional staff in assembling care packages for deployed servicemembers.

BOG awards 5 graduating HS students with Ifit Scholarships, paid internships

Arnold


Camacho

Gilinug

Willyander

Zheng

HAGATNA, Guam—The board of directors and management and staff of Bank of Guam are proud to announce the five winners of the 2018 Bank of Guam Ifit Scholarship, which consists of a $2,000 grant and a paid summer internship. They are the following:

■ Chloe Arnold, Xavier High School (Chuuk), Sophia University

■ Nicholas Camacho, John F. Kennedy High School (Guam), Stanford University

■ Samantha Gilinug, Yap Catholic High School (Yap), University of Guam

■ Macmillan Willyander, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School (Pohnpei), Wheeling Jesuit University

■ Rui Hua Theresa Zheng, Mt. Carmel High School (Saipan), Northeastern University.

For additional information, contact Jackie Marati at (671) 688-5305. ***(PR)***

Guam Chamorro language and history commission meeting set

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its monthly meetings on Thursday, June 7 and 21 and July 5 and 19, 2018 from 12:30pm to 3pm at the Fasilidåt Edukasionåt CHamoru, Guma' Faninadahen Kosas Guahån Senadót Antonio M. Palomo, Hagåtña, Board Conference Room, 2nd floor.

The agenda items include approval of minutes, committee reports, office space, financial matters, responses to communications received, CHamoru orthography revisions and printing, and progress of Strategic Planning and Implementation activities. Additionally, there will be work sessions on June 14 and 28 and July 12 and 26, 2018 from 12:30pm to 3pm at the same venue, Board Conference Room.

For further information, call chair Hope Alvarez Cristobal at (671) 483-0097 or secretary Rosa Salas Palomo at (671) 727-5522. ***(PR)***

3 Saipan beaches red-flagged

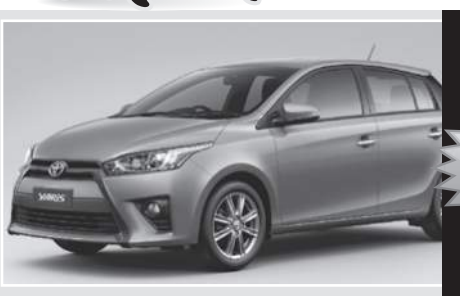
The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged three Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are Nikko Hotel(Kensington), DPW Channel Bridge, and Sugar Dock.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Alamo enterprise rent-a-car National Car Rental
Memorial Day Savings
OFFER VALID MAY 24-31, 2018


TOYOTA YARIS $39 or $99 for 3 days

TOYOTA COROLLA $39 or $99 for 3 days

NISSAN ROGUE $49 or $129 for 3 days

TOYOTA SIENNA $79 or $199 for 3 days

All rates inclusive of CDW insurance and taxes. Some terms and conditions applies.

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Garapan (670) 233-0111 | Hotline: (671) 888-6055 • (670) 285-4405

The Saipan Seventh-day Adventist Dental Clinic
is hosting a free event for those without dental insurance.

Sunday, May 27, 2018
8:00am-2:00pm
Saipan Seventh-day Adventist Clinic, on Quartermaster Road between Beach Road and Middle Road

Extractions and Overdue Cleanings only
First Come, First Served
(Limited availability, so arrive early)

No pre-registration and restrictions may apply
Patients must be at least 16 years of age and accompanied by an adult if under the age of 18.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

Mass shootings like Santa Fe reopen families' old wounds

Here we are again, in the wake of yet another mass shooting, this one in deep red Texas at Santa Fe High School. Ten people, most of whom were students, were killed by another student.

Here we are again, in the wake of yet another mass shooting, debating gun control and the role of the Second Amendment in 21st century America in the only developed nation that suffers so much daily gun violence and so many other days like Santa Fe and Parkland and Orlando.

Here we are again, in the wake of yet another mass shooting, knowing those we've elected to solve such problems are more likely to offer up thoughts and prayers than ideas and politically courageous votes that tackle the most glaring part of the problem: guns.

Such tragedies have impact on us all, but perhaps none as much as loved ones of those killed in previous mass shootings. It's why Marjorie McIver of Conway, S.C., experienced an uneasy weekend after watching reports about Santa Fe. Her sister, Myra Thompson, was among the nine people killed by Dylann Roof during a Bible study at Emanuel A.M.E. in Charleston. She's exasperated.

"It keeps happening, and they keep doing nothing about it," she said.

It cuts a little deeper, McIver said, every time she sees another political ad in which politicians are quicker to brandish a gun than propose a serious plan to reduce gun violence. A TV ad by South Carolina gubernatorial hopeful Catherine Templeton has been a particularly tough gut punch. In it, Templeton is shown using a pistol to figuratively kill a snake before saying to the camera: "We can't shoot the snakes slithering around Columbia. But we will end their poisonous, big-government ways."

For Templeton, it's a cute way to allude to family values and her staunch support for gun rights; her granddaddy gave her a gun to shoot snakes around the house. For McIver, it conjures up images of her sister and other victims such as Clementa C. Pinckney, who was serving in the South Carolina Senate when he was murdered by Roof.

It's not just a debate to those who've experienced gun violence. They appreciate the thoughts and prayers, which help them through the darkest moments. But they've grown frustrated because those thoughts and prayers have become a substitute for the kind of action that might reduce the chance that other families will feel what they've felt, what they must endure every time reports of yet another high-profile shooting floods their TV screens and radio airwaves.

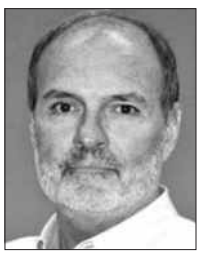
They don't want politicians to use such incidents to find a new way to pledge allegiance to the National Rifle Association. Instead, they are looking for leaders to help the country through a slow-rolling epidemic, one that has claimed nearly 175,000 lives since Sandy Hook, and so many other kinds of victims, as well.

©2018 *The Charlotte Observer* (Charlotte, N.C.)

Trump should cancel meeting with Kim Jong Un

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service*, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.*



The notion of a Nobel Peace Prize for President Donald Trump is a peculiar one, but only the most petty, hyperpartisan soul could wish for him to fail at the meeting currently scheduled for Jun 12 in Singapore. A lot is at stake.

Events are moving quickly, but at this writing both the meeting itself and its chances for a successful outcome appear to be in jeopardy. The seemingly good-willed rapprochement that began with North Korea's attendance at the recent Winter Olympics has largely evaporated in the last few days. North Korea has threatened to pull out of the meeting in Singapore, and Trump is saying what he often says: "We'll see what happens."

A meeting between Kim Jong Un and Trump was an improbable proposition from the beginning. Ordinarily the foundation for such a meeting is laid well in advance by diplomatic subordinates, whose preliminary work reduces the stakes for a summit between heads of state and helps determine whether such a meeting is feasible.

But even Kim must have been gratified and maybe a little surprised when Trump readily accepted his proposal for a meeting without the customary preliminaries. Kim's stature was elevated substantially by the prospect of a face-to-face summit with the leader of the free world, and Trump required nothing in the way of concessions in exchange.

Kim may have understood the irresistibility that the meeting would hold for Trump. During the campaign, Trump said, "I alone can fix it." He sees himself as the ultimate charmingly hardnosed negotiator and dealmaker, and the chance to brush aside the ineffective dillydallying of his predecessors and solve the problem head-to-head, once and for all, must have been enormously tempting.

But it was never going to be that easy. I'm not an expert on North Korea or nuclear weapons, and the chances are very good that you aren't either. Nevertheless it doesn't take an expert to predict that Kim will not be willing to give up his nuclear arsenal, which is the one thing that gives him credibility and international leverage. Without it, North Korea would be an inconsequential backwater.

So Trump accepted the meeting while entertaining an objective — the complete denuclearization of North Korea — whose achievement is highly unlikely, certainly in one high-stakes meeting.

In the meantime, Trump gave Kim considerable credit for releasing three Americans who had been held hostage by North Korea. He said that Kim "really was excellent to these three incredible people." Little notice was taken of the 200,000 political prisoners who North Korea currently retains under inhumane conditions that include subjection to torture.

Or of the fact that national leaders who are willing to assassinate their own relatives to maintain their political power are unlikely to become compliant, peace-loving humanitarians overnight.

Nevertheless, Kim has managed to take control of the situation. Trump should reclaim the initiative by canceling the June 12 meeting before Kim has a chance to do so. He should then move to put the process back on the customary diplomatic track with meetings among subordinates about stakes that begin at a considerably lower level.

Of course, Trump will not be inclined to admit he made a mistake in immediately accepting the proposed meeting. But the status of the meeting was always tenuous, and it wouldn't be difficult to save face by blaming Kim for its derailment.

When Trump says "We'll see what happens," he's trying to convince us that his position is so strong that he can afford not to be overly concerned about what happens. This may be an effective tactic in business negotiations, but international diplomacy is another matter.

The prospects for the success of a meeting between Kim and Trump aren't promising, but talking is always better than war. Trump has an opportunity to put the talking back on track. He should do so unless he is willing to risk a catastrophic nuclear exchange long before it becomes absolutely inevitable. And that's the direction we're currently heading.

Here's a bigger threat to Trump than impeachment

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF
The Dallas Morning News

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News*. Readers may write to him via email at: carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.*

In recent weeks, Republican leaders have sought to motivate potentially lagging GOP turnout in November's midterm elections by hoisting the bloody flag of impeachment, warning that the main goal of a Democratic House would be to launch proceedings to drive Donald Trump from office.

Admittedly, some Democrats openly tout that goal. But the party's top leaders have made clear it's not their intention, in part because, at this point, no one can predict if special counsel Robert Mueller's probe will conclude by accusing Trump of the "high crimes and misdemeanors" needed for impeachment.

A greater likelihood, and perhaps a far greater threat to Trump and the GOP, is that a Democratic House would begin to perform the congressional oversight functions that Republicans have basically ignored after spending the previous six years going after Barack Obama's Democratic administration.

From the role of industry lobbyists in environmental decisions to the degree to which Trump and his family members may be benefitting financially from his presidency, administration appointees have created a lengthy list of juicy targets for lawmakers interested in probing whether they were serving the public interest — and trying to score political points.

Here are some potential targets:

■ The administration's failure to follow up the intelligence community's conclusion of alleged Russian interference of the 2016 election by taking steps to prevent it in the 2018 and 2020 elections.

■ The role of former industry lobbyists in the Environmental Protection Administration's decisions to ease restrictions governing such issues as methane emissions from new oil and gas wells, coal ash waste from power plants, and fertilizer runoff into rivers and streams.

■ An administration-wide cutback on civil rights enforcement. This includes a reduction in activity by the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division and Housing Secretary Ben Carson's proposal to postpone requirements for HUD funding recipients to show efforts to overcome racial segregation patterns.

■ The administration's inconsistent implementation of its restrictive immigration policies. In particular, the administration has deported people who, after entering the U.S. illegally many years ago, have been productive citizens with families and without criminal records. Further, the administration has impacted agriculture by limiting migrant farm workers.

■ The Department of Health and Human Services' efforts to implement administrative measures to undercut the protections of the Affordable Care Act to compensate for the Republicans' failure to repeal it legislatively.

■ Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' decision to kill inquiries into alleged fraudulent activities at a for-profit college where several of her top officials had previously been employed.

■ The role of lobbyists from energy companies in the decision by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to reduce by 2 million acres the amount of federally protected lands at two national monuments in Utah, Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante. This opened most of the region's coal deposits and retired oil and gas leases.

■ President Trump's reported orders to the Postmaster General to double postal rates on Amazon because he dislikes the coverage of his administration by The Washington Post, owned by the online retailer's founder, Jeff Bezos.

■ Mishandling of recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. This includes Zinke's decision to award a no-bid $300 million contract for restoring the island's damaged electrical power grid to a small Montana firm which proved totally incapable of doing it.

■ An array of administration actions eliminating the role of science and scientists in determining public policy, such as Pruitt's proposed ban on using confidential studies on the impact of environmental rules; the shutting down of specific studies on the effect of salt in children's lunches and the health impact of certain pesticides; and the elimination of references to the impact of climate change in various government studies.

■ The extent to which Trump and members of his family have taken advantage of their positions to benefit financially. For example, Trump-owned facilities have been used for federal meetings and to house security personnel. And some U.S policies facilitated foreign government decisions that could benefit family members, like Qatar's reported decision to help bail out son-in-law Jared Kushner's financially ailing New York real estate venture.

Earlier this month, House Speaker Paul Ryan warned at a California conference that, if Republicans lose either the House or Senate, "then you'll have absolute gridlock. You'll have gridlock, you'll have subpoenas, you'll have just the system shutting down."

Judging from last week's farm bill train wreck and the minimal overall legislative record, the system isn't working too well now, under total GOP control. But there haven't been many subpoenas, not to mention the kind of oversight Congress should be performing. That's likely to change dramatically if Democrats win the House or the Senate.

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

CNMI HS GRADUATION 2018 Q&A

"A sonnet where students are asked and tasked
to give some thought about the free education they
have received and mature teen age thought they have
just today conceived, and is now to be believed."

What you gonna say about today's graduation?
How you gonna grade /assess your own education?
What you gonna do about your present situation?
working out boyfriend /girlfriends complications?

Are you going off island or are you staying here?
Whats your future plans? What do you want or need?
Will you drink in more knowledge or more cold beer?
Will you be driving fast cars and smoking local weed?

What's the most important thing in life? Can you guess?
My mother always said it was good health and happiness
We all need food, clothing, and shelter, and lots of love
It can come from friends & family or from heaven up above.

No matter where you go, no matter what you gonna do
Remember love & kindness; To your own self be true!

HS EDUCATION YESTERDAY TODAY and TOMORROW

"Not all readers become leaders, but all leaders must be readers."
—U.S. President Harry S. Truman

As you turn what for some is formal education's last page
you think about the past, present, all the long tomorrows
as you get your diploma walking across the graduation stage
with memories of friends, family, happiness and sorrows.

Do you remember when Juan got in trouble and Maria did this
that party at the beach when you first got drunk drinking beer
when you finally got serious enough and gave your first kiss
when you were scared to drive when learning how to steer?

Today is going like a flash, time slips away, a comet in the sky
you may ask yourself "I wonder why? I really wonder why?"
Today you'll get words of wisdom from parents and teachers
and wisecracks and jokes from those up in the bleachers.

KEEP LEARNING FOREVER, keep learning your whole life
learn to teach others, sisters, brothers, children, husband or wife.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Apply earned income tax credits

The Covenant established for the Northern Mariana Islands a mirror-image taxation system with the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. That includes the provision of applying earned income tax credits for our citizens in the same manner that Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands applies the earned income tax to its citizens. That code provision today applies to the Northern Mariana Islands. But the government violates the tax code by fully taxing all earned income credit tax credit.

Applying the earned income tax provision means that U.S. citizen must be fully employed to qualify for the credit. The credit today still applies to U.S. citizen workers but the Legislature then turned around and taxes that credit 100 percent so the government retained all payments and citizens get zero payment for earned income tax credit since all the credit went to the 100 percent tax payment scheme. If an employed citizen had an earned income credit of, say, $2,000, the government imposes a 100 percent tax on the $2,000 and the citizen worker gets to receive zero dollars of a tax credit meant for him or her.

The Legislature, including Rep. Angel Demapan, voted not to tax the casino tax. Well, it appears to me at least that Mr. Demapan is fine with taxing 100 percent of our workers' earned income tax and but zero tax for IPI/Best Sunshine's casino enterprise.

Mr. Demapan voted to give government employees 5-percent salary increases. A government employee making $39,000 a year (like legislators) will essentially earn a gross bi-weekly salary increase of $75.04.

As if to add insult to injury, legislators' salaries, on the other hand, which Mr. Demapan voted for himself and colleagues, means a bi-weekly salary increase of about $1,153.85.

A difference of $1,078.81 per pay period. Just imagine the huge difference for employees making less that $39,000 a year.

An enthusiastic apologist of no casino tax, Mr. Demapan says that the Commonwealth money woes are being financed by taxes paid by the casino being built. That's $15 million a year plus taxes that all other businesses are also required to pay. Compare those to the combined taxes paid by all other businesses and the taxes paid by IPI is a small fraction of government revenues from taxes paid by businesses. And a small fraction of government revenues from taxes paid by working families.

As chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Demapan should include the earned income tax credit payment in the annual appropriations bill. The money goes directly to taxpayers. It costs $16 million. And, it is the law, after all.

Joseph Camacho
Kagman

Speak up against bullying

I am writing this letter to express my feelings and thoughts about bullying. It is very common in the CNMI for many reasons. At certain times, it gets to the point where the victims try to kill themselves because of what is happening to them. There are points in our lives that we get bullied because of what we are and who we are. We are all humans, we have feelings that some people just won't understand, but just talk to someone who can listen to you and you can express your feelings to.

Bullying at schools makes it seem that schools aren't the right place for people because they get hurt and it also makes it seem like they don't feel welcome. We should always be considerate about people's feelings because at points you might not even know that some stuff is happening in their household and you are just adding up to their pain.

Bullying does not only occur in the CNMI, but all around the world. Bullying can cause many things: depression, suicides, cutting, taking of pills, and many more.

If schools were really a bully free school zone, then there shouldn't be any more suicides occurring. Hopefully it changes pretty soon, so there wouldn't be any more lives gone and loved ones gone from families to soon.

If you are getting bullied, please SPEAK UP. Don't let them bring you down so that they can get the satisfaction they want from what they are doing.

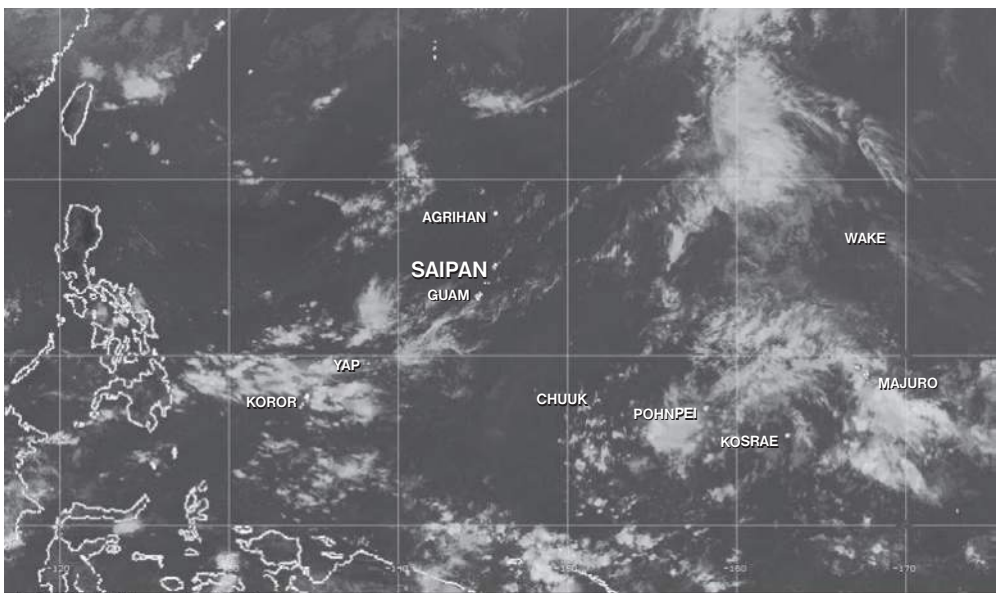
Trisha B. Bautista
Via email

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:26 PM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light winds with good surface heating and abundant moisture will make island convection a possibility again today. This effect could be strong enough to kick off thunderstorms again today, though winds are expected to increase a bit today. This would result in the thunderstorms possibly pushing off the west side of the island. Therefore, added slight chance of thunderstorms to Guam and Guam coastal waters for this afternoon. Expect any thunderstorms that do develop to be west of Guam over the western waters. Otherwise, no changes made to the inherited forecast.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Palau	Thunderstorm	87° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	63° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	90° / 64°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Rain	83° / 74°
London	Showers	68° / 55°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	68° / 55°
Manila	Thunderstorm	97° / 81°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorm	79° / 75°
New York	Mostly Sunny	76° / 57°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	82° / 66°
Paris	Thunderstorm	79° / 57°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	73° / 61°
Rome	Showers	73° / 59°
Salem	Thunderstorm	85° / 69°
San Francisco	Showers	60° / 54°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	75° / 54°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	82° / 64°
Washington, DC	Sunny	84° / 63°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:50 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.95
10:21 AM	LOW TIDE	0.71
3:41 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.45
9:52 PM	LOW TIDE	0.42

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:53 AM	2:06 PM
Friday	-	2:36 AM	2:59 PM
Saturday	-	3:17 AM	3:51 PM
Sunday	-	3:58 AM	4:42 PM
Monday	-	4:40 AM	5:33 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 8, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Airlines obey Beijing's demand to call Taiwan part of China

SHANGHAI (AP)—British Airways, Lufthansa and Air Canada are among 20 carriers that now refer to Taiwan, the self-ruled island that Beijing considers its territory, as a part of China on their global websites, in line with Beijing's demands that the White House called "Orwellian nonsense," The Associated Press has found.

There are just three days left for dozens of foreign airlines to decide whether to comply with Beijing's orders or face consequences that could cripple their China business, including legal sanctions. Many have already sided with Beijing.

The spread of "Taiwan, China" on the drop-down menus and maps of airline websites represents another victory for China's President Xi Jinping and his ruling Communist Party's nationalistic effort to force foreign companies to conform to their geopolitical vision, even in operations outside of China. Critics say China's incremental push to leverage its economic power to forge new international norms — in this case regarding Taiwan's status — creates worrying precedents.

Beyond fiery missives there is little Washington can do to unify a fractured global response and effectively push back against Beijing's demands.

AP

An Air China flight attendant stands near model planes at the International Air Transport Association (IATA) 68th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit in Beijing Tuesday, June 12, 2012.

"What's at stake is that we're allowing a revisionist regime with a terrible track record on freedom of speech to dictate what we say and write in our own countries," said J. Michael Cole, a Taipei-based senior fellow with the China Policy Institute and the University of Nottingham's Taiwan studies program. "If Beijing does not encounter red lines, it can only keep asking for more."

For Beijing, there is only one China and Taiwan, which has been a democracy since the 1990s, is part of it. The People's Republic of China and Taiwan separated during a civil war in 1949. Washington officially recognizes Beijing rather than Taipei, but despite the lack of formal ties, the U.S. is legally bound to respond to threats to Taiwan and is the island's main supplier of foreign military hardware.z

"We strongly object to China's efforts to bully, coerce, and threaten their way to achieving their political objectives," Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement to the AP. "We call on all countries around the world to stand together to uphold the freedom of speech and freedom to do business. We also call on private firms to collectively reject China's unreasonable demands to change their designation of 'Taiwan' to 'Taiwan, China.'"

Puerto Rico gov submits $25B budget amid deal with board

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Puerto Rico's governor proposed a $25 billion budget to the island's legislature Tuesday in which retired government workers would keep their monthly pensions uncut and public school teachers and police officers would get pay raises.

The budget also contains $25 million for a voluntary buyout program as the U.S. territory's government faces new austerity measures while it struggles to recover from Hurricane Maria amid an 11-year recession.

"There are a lot of challenges to overcome, but I'm certain we are headed in the right direction," Rossello said during his annual budget address.

The governor kept his promise not to implement a 10 percent reduction to the public pension system as sought by a federal control board overseeing Puerto Rico's finances. While the proposed cut to a system facing nearly $50 billion in liabilities might not be made in the upcoming fiscal year, it could come the following year.

Rossello delivered his address two days after he reached a tentative deal with the control board to reverse its decision to eliminate a Christmas bonus and reduce vacation and sick days for public workers. In exchange, Rossello said Puerto Rico would adopt at-will employment for the private sector as part of an overhaul of local labor laws, including a new work requirement for certain people enrolled in a nutritional assistance program.

"For those families ... who are thinking about leaving Puerto Rico, look at this budget deal as a first step for a new opportunity to stay here," the governor said.

However, the deal with the board is still tentative because Puerto Rico's legislature first has to agree to at-will employment, in which employers would be able to dismiss a worker at any time without having to prove just cause.

"In my opinion, it's bad," said Thomas Rivera Schatz, president of the island's Senate and a member of the governor's party.

The budget submitted by Rossello also calls for a $50 million-a-year fund to help municipalities and a $25 million fund for scholarships to the University of Puerto Rico, which will see its undergraduate cost rise from $57 per credit to $115 by next year and then to $157 by fiscal year 2023.

In addition to a $1,500 annual salary increase for teachers and police officers, the budget would slash an 11.5 percent sales-and-use tax on processed food to 7 percent starting in August.

Rossello also said his administration would start renovating roads with $600 million in local and federal funds following Hurricane Maria, which caused overall damage estimated at more than $100 billion. He said Puerto Rico also has an additional $817 million to renovate homes and some $120 million to build new housing projects.

Nation

Dems nominate 1st woman as GOP race heads to runoff

ATLANTA (AP)—In Georgia's gubernatorial primary, Democrats elected a woman who could become the first black female governor in American history, but no Republican candidate gathered more than 50 percent of the vote—so the top two face a July runoff.

Stacey Abrams secured the Democratic nomination, becoming the first woman to do so. She will face either Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle or Secretary of State Brian Kemp. Their GOP runoff is scheduled for July 24.

Abrams beat former state Rep. Stacey Evans in a race featuring two former legislative colleagues tussling over ethics accusations and their respective records on education

Abrams campaign was plagued by allegations of ethics violations, including that she reimbursed herself money from campaign accounts without record and that she used campaign resources to promote book sales from which she personally profited. She has denied the allegations.

Abrams got a last-minute boost with an endorsement —in the form of a 60-second robo-call—from Hillary Clinton.

Abrams

In the Republican race, Cagle and Kemp beat three GOP rivals in a race characterized by over-the-top ads, strong support for gun rights and tough talk on immigration. The field was all white men: former legislators, officeholders and businessmen, some with decades of political experience and others positioning themselves as outsiders challenging the establishment.

Cagle garnered national headlines in February when he threatened to kill a tax break benefiting Delta Air Lines, one of Georgia's largest employers, for ending a discount program for members of the National Rifle Association.

Kemp garnered strong criticism—and national headlines—with a series of campaign ads including one where he says he has a big truck, "Just in case I need to round up criminal illegals and take 'em home myself."

In the ballroom of a downtown Atlanta hotel, Abrams thanked supporters and outlined her vision for the future.

She drew loud and sustained applause when she told the crowd, "We can repeal campus carry and we can expand HOPE," referring to a law that allows guns to be brought onto college campuses and a popular scholarship program.

Abrams said: "We are writing the next chapter of Georgia's future, where no one is unseen, no one is unheard and no one is uninspired."

Cagle and Kemp, meanwhile, showed no signs of slowing down and pivoted directly to talk of the runoff.

In Athens, Kemp told supporters, "We have created that grass-roots game in all 159 counties that has worked so hard for us tonight," as he laid out his strategy for defeating Cagle.

At Cagle's gathering in Gainesville, he told the crowd: "It's great to come in first place. We've got a lot more to be done."

Energy wells plugged as Hawaii's volcano sends lava nearby

PAHOA, Hawaii (AP)—Production wells at a geothermal plant under threat by lava flowing from Hawaii's Kilauea volcano have been plugged to prevent toxic gases from seeping out.

Lava from a nearby, new volcanic vent entered, then stalled, on the 815-acre (329.8 hectare) property where the Puna Geothermal Venture wells occupy around 40 acres (16 hectares). Residents have been concerned about hazards if the lava flowed over the plant's facilities, or if heat generated would interact with various chemicals used on-site.

Ten wells were "quenched," which cools them with enough cold water to counter the pressure of volcanic steam coming from below, said Hawaii Gov. David Ige. The last well was plugged with mud, because it had remained hot despite the infusion of water. Metal plugs in the wells, which run as deep as 8,000 feet (2,438 meters) underground, are an additional stopgap measure.

"All wells are stable at this point," said Ige. County officials are also monitoring various gases that may leak into the atmosphere.

A spike in gas levels could prompt a mass evacuation, said Hawaii County Civil Defense Administrator Talmadge Magno. Officials, however, have not discussed specific scenarios that would lead to such an emergency.

Puna Geothermal, owned by Nevada's Ormat Technologies, was shut down shortly after Kilauea began spewing lava on May 3. The plant harnesses heat and steam from the earth's core to spin turbines to generate power. A flammable gas called pentane is used as part of the process, though officials earlier this month removed 50,000 gallons (190,000 liters) of the gas from the plant to reduce the chance of explosions.

The plant has capacity to produce 38 megawatts of electricity, providing roughly one-quarter of the Big Island's daily energy demand.

Lava destroyed a building near the plant late Monday, bringing the total number of structures overtaken in the past several weeks to nearly 50, including dozens of homes. The latest was a warehouse adjacent to the Puna plant, Hawaii County spokeswoman Janet Snyder told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser. The building was owned by the state and was used in geothermal research projects in the early days of the site.

Native Hawaiians have long expressed frustration with the plant since it came online in 1989; they say it is built on sacred land. Goddess of fire, Pele, is believed to live on Kilauea volcano, and the plant itself is thought to desecrate her name.

Other residents have voiced concerns over health and safety.

Scientists, however, say the conditions on Kilauea make it a good site for harnessing the earth for renewable energy.

"There's heat beneath the ground if you dig deep enough everywhere," said Laura Wisland, a senior analyst at the Union of Concerned Scientists. But in some places in the U.S. "it's just hotter, and you can access the geothermal energy more easily."

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Asia

Duterte to drug suspects: Stay in jail if you want to live longer

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president told drug suspects in a central province Tuesday to look for a way to get arrested and then stay in jail if they want to live longer, in his latest threat in his bloody anti-drug crackdown.

Duterte

President Rodrigo Duterte did not identify the targets of his warning in a televised threat-laden speech, but referred to people who grew rich through illegal drugs in Cebu province.

"You know if I were you guys in Cebu, stay in jail. You want to live longer? Stay in jail," Duterte said. "Look for your own reason to be in jail. Do not go out of that facility. It would not be healthy for you."

There has been at least one high-profile drug suspect, however, who was shot to death by police in his jail cell in what was suspected of being a rubout.

Police killed town mayor Rolando Espinosa inside a jail in central Leyte province in 2016 in what they said was a gunbattle, but government investigators declared it a murder. Murder complaints against an officer and his men involved in the shootout were later downgraded to a lesser charge that allowed them to be released on bail and reinstated into the force.

In a rambling speech during the Philippine navy's founding anniversary that initially touched on terrorism and South China Sea territorial threats, Duterte veered to his anti-drug crackdown. He issued a veiled threat to policemen involved in drugs and acknowledged the national force has been infiltrated by criminals.

"Some of them, sadly, are really into drugs ... most of all the policemen because they are aplenty. I'm just warning them that if you are into it, you will be the first to go," he said.

"It is no surprise that you are just also falling down one by one and the mayors and the village captains," he said.

"And to all of those criminals out there, to all those rogue policemen and all creating hell for us, I have yet sufficient time to correct all of these things," Duterte, a former mayor, said. "You might not like the way how I correct things but I would just love to warn you that there is no turning back on this and I am there in the drug war in front."

More than 4,000 mostly poor drug suspects have been killed in clashes with police that officials say erupted because the suspects fought back. Human rights watchdogs have cited much higher death tolls, which the government disputes.

Duterte denies condoning extrajudicial killings and has lashed out at critics, including former U.S. President Barack Obama, Western governments and U.N. human rights officials, who have raised alarm over the drug killings and threats to human rights.

But Duterte disclosed Friday that he wanted to reply to U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein's critical remarks in March but was advised "to shut up" at the time by his national security adviser, who told him that Zeid was royalty from Jordan, which was providing the Philippines with two assault helicopters.

Zeid has suggested that Duterte "needs to submit himself to some sort of psychiatric evaluation" over his "unacceptable" remarks about some top human rights defenders.

MH370 search director disagrees with pilot ditch theory

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The director of a seabed hunt for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 on Tuesday disagreed with a new book's conclusion that the pilot likely flew the plane beyond the search area to deliberately sink it in unexplored depths of the Indian Ocean.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau believes the airliner mostly likely ran out of fuel and crashed after flying far off course en route from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing on March 8, 2014. It believes all 239 passengers and crew on board were likely long dead inside a depressurized cabin and cockpit.

Search director Peter Foley, who coordinated the search on Malaysia's behalf, was quizzed by a Senate committee on theories in Canadian air crash investigator Larry Vance's new book "MH370: Mystery Solved."

The book argues that two wing flaps found on islands off Africa in 2015 and 2016 point to pilot Zaharie Ahmad Shah performing a controlled ditching outside the 120,000 square kilometers (46,000 square miles) that were scoured by sonar in a 198 million Australian dollar ($150 million) search that ended in January last year. It says Shah's aim was to keep the plane largely intact so it would disappear as completely as possible in the remote southern ocean.

Foley, who said he has read the book, pointed to evidence that the plane was not under anyone's control when it hit the water.

He said analysis of the satellite transmissions of the flight's final moments showed the jet was in a fast and accelerating descent at the end. Debris from within the plane's interior found washed up on the west coast of the Indian Ocean suggested significant energy on impact, Foley said.

"If it was being controlled at the end, it wasn't very successfully being controlled," Foley said. "The flaps weren't deployed," he added.

The book argues that the two recovered flaps show evidence that they had been deployed as the pilot slowed the plane for a gentle landing on water.

Foley said an analysis at the bureau's headquarters in Canberra of the second flap found on the island of Pemba, off the coast of Tanzania, in June 2016 determined it was "probably not deployed."

But French authorities prevented an Australian analyst from "doing anything meaningful in terms of analysis" of the first flap found. That flap, known as a flaperon, was found on the French island of Reunion in July 2015. French authorities are holding the flaperon as evidence for a potential criminal prosecution.

Foley said his bureau could not conclude that the flaperon had lost its trailing edge because it was deployed when the plane hit the water.

While the bureau has not said who had initially flown the plane off course, Foley said "it's absolutely evident" that someone had, ruling out some mechanical or electrical malfunction.

Texas-based technology company Ocean Infinity renewed the search this year on the basis that Malaysia would pay it up $70 million if it could find the wreckage or the plane's black boxes.

World

Venezuela expels top US diplomat

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Nicolas Maduro expelled the top U.S. diplomat in Venezuela and his deputy Tuesday for allegedly conspiring against the socialist government and trying to sabotage the weekend presidential election.

AP
United States Chargé d'Affaires Todd Robinson speaks during a briefing at the Embassy building in Caracas, Venezuela, Friday, May 18, 2018.

"The empire doesn't dominate us here," Maduro said in a televised address, giving charge d'affaires Todd Robinson and his deputy, Brian Naranjo, 48 hours to leave the country. "We've had enough of your conspiring."

Tensions between the U.S. and Venezuela have mounted following Maduro's victory in presidential election Sunday, a vote that the White House and others have branded a "sham."

Maduro said in his speech that Robinson and Naranjo, whom he referred to as the head of the CIA in Venezuela, both personally pressured several anti-government presidential aspirants not to compete in the race. Despite widespread discontent over Venezuela's economic collapse, most opposition parties decided to boycott the election after officials blocked their most popular leaders from competing against Maduro.

Maduro also accused the Trump administration, which toughened financial sanctions on his government Monday, of seeking to escalate "aggressions" against the Venezuelan people. U.S. officials have also said the administration might consider imposing oil sanctions on Venezuela.

"The dominant and decisive reason why the opposition progressively withdrew from the elections was the decision by the extremist U.S. government to not validate or legitimize a presidential election that they knew fully was going to be won in any scenario by the candidate of Nicolas Maduro," Maduro said.

Anticipating likely reciprocal expulsion by the Trump administration, Maduro hours later gave a new job to Carlos Ron, who had been serving as his top envoy to Washington. Ron was named deputy foreign minister in charge of relations with North America.

Robinson was travelling in Venezuela's western state of Merida when he learned through social media of Maduro's order, according to a local radio broadcast of him speaking at an event. Robinson said he and his deputy "strongly reject the accusations."

"This is my first visit but it won't be my last visit to Merida or to Venezuela," he said.

Migrant remittances a big business in cash-starved Venezuela

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—The giant metal pots in the kitchen of a drab Bogota cafeteria are filled with simple dishes like vegetable rice. But Edgary Granadillo's delicate arrangement of the plates he sets before rushed lunchtime office workers hints at the finer dishes he once served.

The former executive chef at a beach resort in Venezuela once commanded a staff of 65 cooks and made regular appearances on television cooking shows.

Now he is laboring for $10 a day, with one sole aim: to send money back home.

"The wages there aren't enough," Granadillo, 30, said, his dark, somber eyes keeping a careful eye on a bubbling saucepan of fish head soup. "People need to rely on a Venezuelan outside the country, who can send something, in order to survive."

As the number of Venezuelans fleeing their country's deepening economic and humanitarian crisis climbs, a burgeoning lifeline for those back home is emerging—remittances. Skirting strict currency controls, dozens of transfer operations, mostly small-scale businesses run by a handful of exiles entirely online, have opened abroad to help emigres convert their dollars and pesos into Venezuelan bolivars that arrive within minutes in a relative's Venezuelan bank account.

As the number of Venezuelans fleeing their country's deepening economic and humanitarian crisis climbs, a burgeoning industry providing a crucial lifeline is emerging: Remittances. Experts estimate Venezuelans send at least $1 billion a year. (May 23)

The remittances are big business. Independent experts estimate Venezuelans now send at least $1 billion a year to friends and family members that they've left behind.

That money is critical at a time when Venezuela's minimum wage is now worth less than $2 a month, and the government of President Nicolas Maduro, who won a new six-year term Sunday in a contested vote many fear will spur even more people to leave, is taking note. Blaming the operations for feeding devaluation—and hoping to snag a piece of the pie—Venezuelan officials recently shut down several exchange houses and announced they would be opening their own.

Focus

AP

Santa Fe, Texas, resident, Lori Simmons prays for healing in front of 10 wooden crosses at Santa Fe High School on Monday, May 21, 2018, in Santa Fe. Republican Gov. Greg Abbott reacted to the killings of eight students and two teachers by calling for a series of roundtable discussions on school safety, starting with one on Tuesday in Austin. He said last week that he wants to find ways to keep guns away from those who pose an "immediate danger to others."

School shooting victims killed attempting to ward off gunman

SANTA FE, Texas (AP)—At least two of the student victims of a mass shooting at a Texas high school tried to block the advance of a gunman and were killed when he shot through the doors.

A classmate of one of the 10 people killed at a Texas high school says Chris Stone and other students tried to barricade the door to their art classroom. Christian Riley Garcia's pastor says the 15-year-old student used his body to keep a closet door closed within the room.

Eight of the 10 people fatally shot Friday were students: Kimberly Vaughan, Shana Fisher, Angelique Ramirez, Christian Riley Garcia, Jared Black, Sabika Sheikh, Christopher Jake Stone and Aaron Kyle McLeod. The other two, Glenda Perkins and Cynthia Tisdale, were substitute teachers.

At least 13 others were injured in the attack at the high school in Santa Fe, about 30 miles (50 kilometers) southeast of Houston. A 17-year-old student, Dimitrios Pagourtzis, is being held on capital murder charges.

Here are some of the victims' stories:

CHRISTIAN RILEY GARCIA

Garcia described himself as a history junky who wanted to join the Army.

Student Jai Gillard, a 14-year-old freshman, tells The Associated Press that Garcia always sat next to her in art class, and had asked her on a date recently.

On Sunday funeral services were held for 17-year-old Pakistani exchange student Sabika Sheikh, who had been attending Santa Fe High School since last August when she was killed Friday in a shooting. (May 20)

She says he was "always happy" and "very sweet."

Gillard says that after they heard gunshots and smelled gunpowder on Friday, she and Garcia and other students piled into a closet. She says that Garcia used his body as a "barricade" against the closet door to keep the shooter from entering.

Ashley Fonseca says her 15-year-old cousin always came to family get-togethers at a lake in Crosby, Texas, and was loved by everyone.

The church in Crosby where Garcia and his parents and younger sister are members was planning a Monday evening vigil to honor what the church describes as Garcia's "heroic act."

Pastor Keenan Smith said law enforcement told Garcia's parents that Garcia was shot through the door he was guarding. He said that because of Garcia's "sacrifice, others were saved."

KIMBERLY VAUGHAN

Vaughan was a Girl Scout with a penchant for red hair dye.

After the shooting Friday, Vaughan's mother, Rhonda Hart, urged people on Facebook to contact their elected representatives.

A former U.S. Army watercraft operator, Hart called for gun control, saying "we need to protect our kids." She also invited other service members to "speak up" for her daughter.

Hart declined AP's request for an interview. But she said Monday on Facebook that one way to honor Vaughan would be to apply some red hair dye. Hart said Vaughan "loved those colors in her hair."

Vaughan's grandfather, Ralph Vaughan, tells the AP he's upset that the accused gunman will not face capital punishment. He says that he's "upset at the prospect of him remaining alive."

GLENDA PERKINS

Perkins for years had been a substitute teacher at Santa Fe High School, where her grandchildren are students.

Student Jay Mann, a junior, tells the Houston Chronicle that Perkins always had a smile on her face, took the time to learn students' names and became part of the fabric of the school.

Mann says she had a great attitude and "never got mad at anybody for doing something stupid."

An all-female Galveston Mardi Gras krewe, Tutu Live Krewe, has posted on Facebook that Perkins, along with her daughter, was a member of their marching group.

ANGELIQUE RAMIREZ

The senior pastor at Dayspring Church says Ramirez was a member of the Santa Fe church's youth ministry.

Pastor Brad Drake says she had occasionally accompanied a younger brother to the ministry at the church where her parents are among the some 150 people to attend Sunday services.

Drake on Sunday described the 15-year-old as "a sweet young lady, had a style all of her own." He says she "almost always had a new hairstyle."

An aunt, Sylvia Pritchett, said in a Facebook post she has "a broken heart and a soul that just can't process all this right now."

JARED BLACK

Black turned 17 on Wednesday and was looking forward to a party this weekend at his family's just-purchased, above-ground swimming pool.

An older brother, Anthony, from Odessa, Texas, was planning to visit with his wife and kids. Jared also had a younger brother, Houston, 13.

The Houston Chronicle reports his family now is planning for his funeral.

His stepfather, Travis Stanich, tells the newspaper Black took daily medication for attention deficit disorder and was quiet and kind and loved art, video games and sci-fi, wrestling and wolves.

Stanich called him "a great kid" who was creative, drew cartoons and loved people.

SHANA FISHER

The mother of 16-year-old Shana Fisher believes that her daughter was intentionally targeted by Pagourtzis.

Sadie Rodriguez said Pagourtzis repeatedly made advances toward Fisher in the four months leading up to the shooting. Pagourtzis was an ex-boyfriend of Fisher's best friend, she said.

"He kept making advances on her and she repeatedly told him no," said Rodriguez over Facebook Messenger. "He continued to get more aggressive."

Rodriguez said that the week before the shooting, Fisher "stood up to him" by "embarrass(ing) him in class." Rodriguez gave no other details.

Rodriguez described her daughter as "shy and sweet" with a passion for video games. Rodriguez shared a video of Fisher from 2015, in which the teen contemplates whether or not she'll continue making gaming videos because her computer keeps crashing.

The day of the shooting, Rodriguez wrote in a Facebook status to "love like (you're) getting one more day with them."

"Anything can happen," she wrote. "I will no longer get to see my baby my 1st born anymore."

CHRIS STONE

Stone was among a group of students who blocked the door to try to prevent the gunman from entering their art classroom, freshman Abel San Miguel, who was in the class, told The Associated Press. The shooter fired his shotgun through the door, though, striking Stone in the chest, he said.

Stone was outgoing, "really funny" and had a lot of friends, said Branden Auzston, a 17-year-old junior at Santa Fe High. He said he knew Stone for about three years, and Stone was one of his best friends.

Auzston's mother, Nicole Auzston, described Stone as a part of her family.

"We would have done anything for him," she said. "He's just a great kid."

Robert Stone told the AP by phone Saturday that his family was grieving his nephew's death and requested privacy.

SABIKA SHEIKH

Abdul Aziz Sheikh was expecting his daughter Sabika to return home to Pakistan in a few weeks for Eid al-Fitr, the three-day holiday marking the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Instead, he learned that his oldest child was among those killed in the mass shooting at Santa Fe High School, where Sabika arrived as an exchange student last August.

Surrounded by mourning friends and family at his home in Karachi on Saturday, Abdul Aziz Sheikh fought back tears as he relived his frantic efforts to check whether his daughter was safe half a world away. She wasn't returning his calls and neither were her friends. He eventually learned from the exchange program that she was among the dead.

"We are still in a state of denial. We can't believe it. It's like a nightmare," Sheikh told The Associated Press.

He said his daughter was a hardworking and accomplished student who aspired to work in civil service, hoping one day to join Pakistan's Foreign Office.

"One should not lose his heart by such kind of incidents," he said. "One should not stop going for education to the U.S. or U.K., or China, or anywhere. One must go for education undeterred. But controlling such incidents is the responsibility of the respective governments."

Her funeral took place Sunday.

CYNTHIA TISDALE

Leia Olinde said Tisdale, her aunt and a substitute teacher at the school, was like a mother to her and helped her shop for wedding dresses last year.

"She helped me put it on, she helped fix my hair," Olinde said through tears.

"She was wonderful. She was just so loving," said Olinde, 25. "I've never met a woman who loved her family so much."

She said Tisdale was married to her husband for close to 40 years and that they had three children and eight grandchildren.

Tisdale's house was the center of family gatherings and she loved cooking Thanksgiving dinner and decorating her house, Olinde said.

Olinde's fiance, Eric Sanders, said of Tisdale that "words don't explain her lust for life and the joy she got from helping people."

AARON KYLE MCLEOD

McLeod, a freshman who went by Kyle, could always be counted on to make light of any situation, said close friend Kali Reeves, who added the 15-year-old "just always had a bright side of things."

Reeves, also 15, said she knew McLeod for years and became close friends with him in the eighth grade. She said he always had a smile on his face and loved to hang out with his friends.

"He was never one to be a sad or down person, he always had to joke or laugh about things," she said. "He was just outgoing and super sweet. He definitely didn't deserve this."

Reeves said she first heard that her friend had been shot as she was evacuating Santa Fe High School, but was unaware of the extent of his condition.

Reeves said she texted McLeod throughout the day to check up on him. She sent him one final text, saying she hopes he "gets better." Shortly after, she checked Facebook and learned he was one of the 10 killed.

Environment

Breeding wolverine heralds comeback in Washington's Cascades

By LYNDA V. MAPES
THE SEATTLE TIMES

SEATTLE—The first breeding female wolverine has been documented south of Interstate 90 in modern times, confirming a comeback for the charismatic carnivore in the Cascades.

Renowned for their agility, power and all-terrain finesse, wolverines are among the most rare mammals in North America.

A denizen of deep snows, capable of traveling hundreds of miles in conditions that send other land animals into hibernation, wolverines were extirpated in Washington by over-trapping, and shot on sight as vermin, like most other predators in the 1900s.

Remnants of Washington's native wolverine population retreated to Canada. From there, they have begun a slow recolonization of their native habitat in Washington, starting with the North Cascades.

The sighting of the breeding female indicates they may be extending their range into the south Cascades.

"This is showing that wolverines are able to expand into more of this historic distribution that has been unoccupied since the 1930s," said Jocelyn Akins, a wildlife biologist and conservation director of the Cascades Carnivore Project, a nonprofit formed to monitor rare carnivore populations in the Cascades.

Wolverines used to range along the Cascade Crest but today remain exceedingly rare, with perhaps just 25 animals in Washington and only about 250 to 300 in the entire Lower 48.

Also called the skunk bear for their striped coat, wolverines (scientific name "Gulo gulo," or the "gluttonous glutton") are solitary, secretive and furtively avoid humans, keeping to remote, wild places.

TNS

This male wolverine is believed to be the mate of the first documented breeding female wolverine south of I-90 in modern times.

Pound for pound, they are among the most ferocious carnivores in Washington, capable of sniffing out frozen carcasses and tunneling through feet of snow to crack open bones and tear apart even frozen carrion. Their powerful jaws and molars are specially adapted to shear off chunks of rock-hard flesh and bone.

"If wolverines have a strategy it's this: Go hard, and high and steep and never back down. Not even from the biggest grizzly and least of all from the mountain. Climb everything … eat everybody. Alive, dead, long dead, moose, mouse, fox, frog, it's still warm heart or frozen bones," writes Doug Chadwick in his book, "The Wolverine Way."

Their long, thick, brown and gold coat sheds frost and is underlaid with a soft insulating layer of fur that lets the wolverine shrug off the most brutal cold. Sharp, semi-retractable claws make them the superheroes of the wild, able to scrabble up and down trees and rocky slopes.

Weighing in at about 30 pounds, they are the largest of the weasel family on land; sea otters are in the same family and outweigh them in the water.

Delivered weeknights, this email newsletter gives you a quick recap of the day's top stories and need-to-know news, as well as intriguing photos and topics to spark conversation as you wind down from your day.

Female wolverines come into mating season only about once every two years. When not seeking a mate, they are solitary creatures.

Tracking wolverines requires near heroic effort. Using remote, motion-triggered cameras, the Cascades Carnivore Project has been able to snag hair for DNA analysis and photographically document the presence of the same female south of the Cascades beginning in 2016. The discovery this spring that she is lactating demonstrates she is reproducing, great news for an animal persisting in such small numbers.

Photos were taken of her east of Mount Rainier on the Naches Ranger District, in the William O. Douglas Wilderness.

The female is known to be the same one seen earlier, because each wolverine has a unique blaze of fur on its chest, making photo identification possible.

A male was also documented in the same area, probably her mate.

"It's a big deal," said Patty Garvey-Darda, wildlife biologist with the U.S. Forest Service on the Cle Elum Ranger District of the Okanogan National Forest. "Nobody knows for sure, but it appears maybe they have expanded their range."

Charlie Raines, director of the Cascade Checkerboard Project with the Sierra Club, a long-running project to protect and connect wild lands in the Central Cascades, said protection and reconnection of vast swaths of wild country can only help the recovery of the wolverine, an animal that needs lots of space to roam.

Seeing wolverines in more of their traditional territory is a good sign that those efforts are paying off, Raines said.

"It shows when you protect and restore the habitat and provide connectivity, these wild creatures will re-inhabit their original range. This is good news. We need some more of that."

The Washington Department of Transportation is nearing completion of an overpass by this fall for wildlife at I-90. It will enable animals like the wolverine to cruise the landscape north and south of the freeway in search of food, mates and denning habitat.

Under-crossings along the freeway just east of Snoqualmie Pass at Gold Creek are already completed and being used by all sorts of animals, large and small, terrestrial and aquatic. Even pika got a break, with piles of rocks put along the crossings just for them.

The crossings are part of a historic effort in Washington, documented in a new film, to improve 15 miles of I-90 for wildlife passage, in addition to widening the road for motorists.

Garvey-Darda said if even rare animals like the wolverine use the crossing, that is a signature of success. "Building these over-crossings and under-crossings will give us a lot more assurance that we can keep viable populations of wildlife in the Cascades," said Garvey-Darda, liaison to WSDOT on the crossings project.

The over-crossing is expected to be particularly helpful to wolverines, she said.

TNS

The enlarged teats on this female show she is breeding, great news for fans of Gulo gulo, the wily wolverine. This photo, captured on a motion-activated camera, is the first documentation of a breeding population of wolverines south of I-90 in modern times.

Lake sturgeon should be endangered species, environmental group says

Detroit Free Press

DETROIT—An environmental group is petitioning the federal government to declare lake sturgeon — a giant, ancient Great Lakes fish — an endangered species.

The Center for Biological Diversity is seeking protection for lake sturgeon under the Endangered Species Act by designating them as "threatened."

Lake sturgeon are Michigan's oldest fish species dating to the age of dinosaurs. They can grow to be 7 feet long and weigh 200 pounds. Overfishing, dam construction and water pollution have driven many lake sturgeon populations toward the brink of extinction. Sturgeon can live 150 years.

"These behemoth fish are a bellwether for the health of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River," said Marc Fink, the center's public lands legal director. "The loss of our lake sturgeon has been much like the slaughter of the buffalo. We can barely imagine how abundant these great fish once were. To guarantee their long-term survival, we need to give real protection to them and their habitats."

It is a threatened species in Michigan, and taking or possessing a sturgeon in violation of state law is punishable by 30 to 180 days in jail, a $500 to $2,000 fine, or both, according to the Department of Natural Resources. Individuals can be responsible for reimbursement of prosecution fees and can also lose fishing privileges for three years and face a fine of $1,500 per fish.

Around half of the state's sturgeon population resides in the Detroit/St. Clair River system.

Lake sturgeon harvest is limited to one per year per angler, and only on certain waters. Any sturgeons captured in the Detroit River must be immediately released, but on Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River in Michigan, anglers may harvest one between July 16 and Sept. 30 with a slot size limit of 42 inches to 50 inches (inclusive).

While populations have declined dramatically, the range of the lake sturgeon covers 23 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

TNS

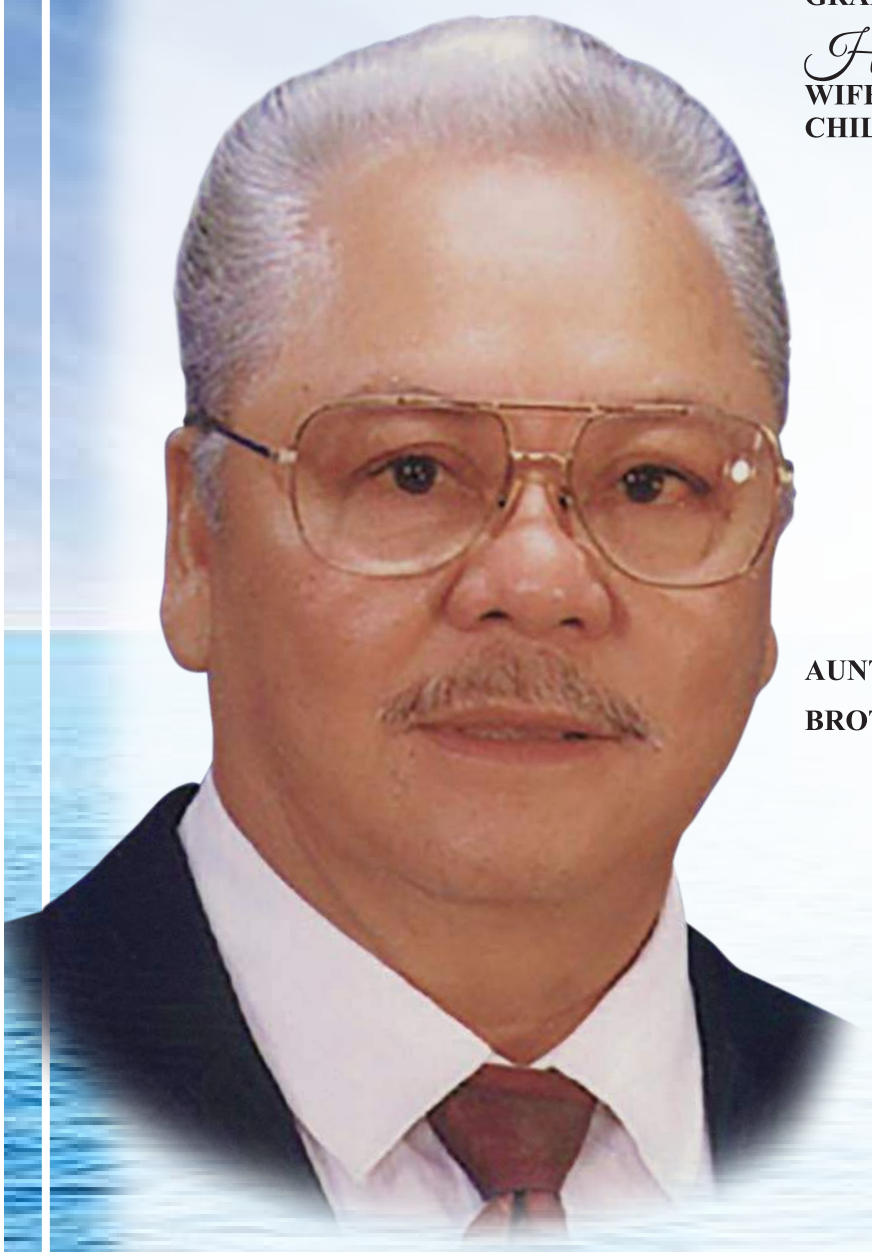
Michigan Department of Natural Resources fisheries biologist Tim Cwalinski holds a sturgeon from the Black River. An environmental group is petitioning the federal government to declare lake sturgeon an endangered species.

In Celebration Of His New Life

†PEDRO PANGELINAN TENORIO

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS "TENO"

APRIL 18, 1934 – MAY 21, 2018



In his new life, he now joins:

PARENTS: †Blas and †Guadalupe Pangelinan Tenorio
PARENTS IN LAW: †Joaquin S and †Angelina DLG Pangelinan/ †Magdalena T. Pangelinan
GRANDSON: †Joseph T. Deleon Guerrero

He will be in the hearts and lives of his:

WIFE: Sophia P. Tenorio
CHILDREN:

PETER MICHAEL and Jacqueline G. Tenorio – Sophia, Exequiel, and Peter
RUTH and Pedro (Roy) C. Sablan – Sophia/Floyd Dela Cruz (Caden, Madison), Peter Thorn/Joice (Urijah Wolf), and Thomas Kim
PATRICK and Charlene M. Tenorio – Monique/Dirk Magatas (Haven, Patrick Graysen), Cadez/Trinaleen (Carina), Anthony/Nanami (Owen), Peter Michael (Micaela), Patrick (Leighton), Ioanis Rasa (Maddox), and Juan Tutiy
PAUL Tenorio and Leticia Borja – Taylor, Jessiana, and Kainoa
PERRY and Teresa K. Tenorio – Justis, Sunho/Sierra, Pedro, and Sunjoon
REINA and Ray C. Kluge – Jade, Sommer, Dylan, and Nolan
ROSLYN and Joseph Deleon Guerrero: Peter Joaquin/Jan (Juliette) and Sophiana
REBECCA Tenorio and Joshua Muna: Peter Patrick, Steven, Sophia Francis, and Sophia Joshabelle
†**FRANCISCO** and Dianalynn C. Tesiro - Christopher Tenorio, Benjamin/Tersha (Tyana and Brandon), Joseph/Jessica (Francisco, Joseph Jr. and Vicente), Thelma (Victoria, Franklin, Briannalyn, Yoshi, Victor and Mykah), Jovina/Anthony, Erica, Nicole and Maria

AUNT: Consolacion T. Sablan

BROTHERS/SISTERS AND IN-LAWS:

†**Jose P.** and Amparo DLG. Tenorio/†Andrea Camacho
†**Merced T.** and †Dionicio C. Torres
†**Dolores T.** and †Roman M. Benavente
Cecilia T. and †Marcelino DLG. Camacho
†**Susana T.** and †Jesus P. Mafnas
Juan P. and Rita V. Tenorio
Ramona T. and Jesus T. Attao
†**Margarita P.** and †Edward A. Flores/†Herman M. Kintol
†**Isabel P.** and Segundo Duenas
†**Rita P.** and †Dr. Jose T. Villagomez
†**Gonzalo DLG Pangelinan**
†**John Manuel "JP" DLG. Pangelinan**
†**Alejo T. Aldan**
Faustina A. and †Gilbert C. Ada
†**Jesus T.** and Jerri Aldan
Herman DLG. and Christina O. Pangelinan
Felix Torres
Gordon T. and Alice V. Pangelinan
Evelyn P. and †Gregorio S. Calvo

Daily mass is being offered at 6am at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. On **TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018**, our beloved Pedro will be escorted from the CHCC morgue to Mount Carmel Cathedral at **7:30am**. Responso and viewing will follow upon arrival. At **11:00 a.m.**, Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated, followed by Interment Services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Thereafter, lunch will be served at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall.

Your prayers and thoughts are greatly appreciated.

Thank You,

SOPHIA TENORIO AND CHILDREN

Life & Style

Ariana Grande sends love to fans on Manchester anniversary

LONDON (AP)—Ariana Grande shared a message of hope with fans Tuesday as dignitaries, survivors, first responders and the people of Manchester gathered to mark the anniversary of the concert bombing that killed 22 people.

The pop star told survivors and the families of victims that she was "thinking of you all today and every day."

"I love you with all of me and am sending you all of the light and warmth I have to offer on this challenging day," she wrote in a tweet that included a bee, the civic symbol of Manchester.

Salman Abedi, a 22-year-old Briton of Libyan descent, blew himself up as fans were leaving Grande's concert at Manchester Arena on May 22, 2017. Twenty-two concertgoers were killed, and police say more than 800 people were left "with physical and deep psychological injuries."

Across Manchester, a 19th century industrial powerhouse turned diverse and creative modern city, residents made defiant statements of unity in the face of extremist violence.

Some laid bouquets of flowers in St. Ann's Square. Others left hand-written notes on Japanese maples that have been planted to form a "Trees of Hope" trail through the city. One note cited U.S. Episcopal Bishop Michael Curry's sermon at Saturday's royal wedding: "As a clever bishop said 'there is power in love.'"

Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham said it was a day to "come together."

Thousands of people paused outside Manchester Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. for a minute of silence that was observed across the country, including in Parliament, where lawmakers paused their debates and fell still.

Prince William and Prime Minister Theresa May joined survivors and emergency workers who responded to the attack for a remembrance service at the cathedral.

A choir sang "Amazing Grace" and "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," and Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and humanist leaders all addressed the congregation.

On the altar stood 22 lighted candles, made from the wax of thousands of candles left at St. Ann's Square in the days after the attack.

AP

Ariana Grande performs "No Tears Left To Cry" at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena on Sunday, May 20, 2018, in Las Vegas.

William read a passage from the Bible's book of Corinthians, ending: "Faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

Robby Potter, who was hit by shrapnel as he waited to pick his daughter up from the concert, said he felt he had to come to the service "to support the families who have lost people."

"We were very lucky, we know how lucky we are," he told Sky News. "It's a case of standing strong. The country stood strong, especially Manchester."

Later, thousands of people—including a choir of attack survivors—gathered for a concert and sing-song in the city's Albert Square.

"We are showing Manchester and the world that we carry on," said Cath Day of the Manchester Survivors Choir.

After performances by several choirs, the crowd joined in a mass sing-along of tunes including Grande's "One Last Time," "Look Back In Anger" by Oasis—an unofficial anthem of Manchester after the bombing—and The Beatles' "All You Need is Love."

Bells on the city hall and churches rang out at 10:31 p.m., a year since the bomb exploded.

Police say 100 investigators are still working on the case. The U.K. has issued an arrest warrant for Abedi's younger brother, Hashem Abedi, and is seeking his extradition from Libya—a far-from-straightforward process given that country's political chaos.

Vegas casino workers OK strike that may hobble famed resorts

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Las Vegas casinos could watch tens of thousands of employees walk off the job for the first time in more than three decades after union members voted Tuesday to authorize a strike at any time starting June 1, a move that could cripple the city's world-famous resorts.

About 25,000 members of the Culinary Union who work at 34 different casino-resorts across the tourist destination cast ballots in two sessions, showing the collective power of the largest labor organization in Nevada. The move hands union negotiators a huge bargaining chip as they work to solidify new five-year contracts.

The union last voted for a strike in 2002 but reached a deal before employees walked out. The last strike, in 1984, spanned 67 days and cost the city and workers tens of millions of dollars.

The latest strike would mean losing workers with roles critical to making a casino-hotel run: bartenders, housekeepers, cocktail and food servers, porters, bellmen, cooks and other kitchen workers. It would affect properties including Caesars Palace, Planet Hollywood, Bellagio, MGM Grand, Stratosphere, The D and El Cortez.

It also could cause problems for fans heading to the city to watch the Vegas Golden Knights hockey team play in the Stanley Cup Final in early June, a rare feat for a team in its first year.

"I'm here to show the younger generations that this is the way we fight to maintain our jobs, job security, health benefits and to gain a pay raise," Lewis Thomas, a utility porter at the Tropicana casino-hotel, said. "This will be a wake-up call to let (the companies) know we are together, we are united, we are not separated."

The contracts of 50,000 unionized workers are set to expire at midnight May 31, and negotiations with individual casino-operating companies have not led to agreements for new terms.

Union officials have said they want to increase wages, protect job security against the increasing use of technology at hotel-casinos, and strengthen language against sexual harassment.

"We've been in negotiations with the companies, and they are not giving the workers what they deserve according to the economy right now," Geoconda Arguello-Kline, union secretary-treasurer, said after the first voting session. "They are very successful. They have a lot of money."

MGM Resorts International and Caesars Entertainment operate more than half the properties that would be affected by a strike. MGM said it will keep meeting with the union.

"As we continue to bargain in good faith, we are confident that we'll resolve contract issues and negotiate a contract that works for everyone," the company said in a statement before the results of the vote.

Caesars did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Union members enthusiastically gathered Tuesday at the Thomas and Mack Center at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. They high-fived, took selfies and carried signs urging people to vote.

Banners outside said, "Show up or give up, security strike vote" amid pro-union chants in English and Spanish. Some workers chanted, "Hey, Caesars, look around, Vegas is a union town" and "No contract, no peace."

Some employees stopped by in their casino-resort uniforms on their way to or from work, while others donned shirts emblazoned with "Vegas Strong" and the union logo.

Inside, union organizers verified people were eligible to vote, and workers dropped their paper ballots in numbered boxes.

When casino workers across Las Vegas went on a strike in 1984, union members lost an estimated $75 million in wages and benefits and the city lost a similar amount in tourism revenue. Millions more were lost in gambling income.

Don Leadbeter, a bellman at the MGM Grand, has worked at Las Vegas casino-hotels for more than four decades and participated in previous strike votes. He said workers this time want to protect their job security and ensure that employers provide training as they adopt more workplace technology.

He said bartenders are already using automated systems that could potentially eliminate their jobs, and guests are now able to check in and out of resorts without interacting with front-desk personnel, putting those jobs at risk, too.

"I want the companies to open up their eyes and think what's going to happen if we go on a strike," Leadbeter said. "That's a lot of business that's going to go down."

Stephen King among the honorees at PEN America gala

NEW YORK (AP)—Stephen King has been presented an award by PEN America for literary service.

The author received his prize Tuesday night from Morgan Freeman, who starred in the film adaptation of King's "The Shawshank Redemption." King was praised by PEN, the literary and human rights organization, as an advocate for literacy and free expression.

PEN also honored student activists from the Florida high school where 17 people were fatally shot in February and two journalists imprisoned in Myanmar. CEO Carolyn Reidy of Simon & Schuster, which releases King's books, was the PEN America "Publisher Honoree."

PEN's annual fundraising gala was held at the American Museum of Natural History, where attendees included novelist Margaret Atwood, actors Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist and PEN president Jennifer Egan.

Woman accuses R. Kelly of sexual battery, giving her herpes

NEW YORK (AP)—R. Kelly sexually abused and demeaned a woman, locked her in rooms and vehicles for punishment and infected her with herpes, according to a lawsuit that furthers a string of misconduct accusations against the platinum-selling singer.

Faith Rodgers said in the suit filed Monday in New York that the "I Believe I Can Fly" singer "mentally, sexually and verbally" abused her during a roughly yearlong relationship.

Kelly's management team declined to comment Tuesday but previously denied claims that Rodgers made in a police report filed in Dallas in April.

Rodgers' lawsuit includes some of the same allegations and adds to them, painting a portrait of forceful sex, humiliation, unwanted sex tapes and sometimes confinement by one of pop music's best-selling—and most embattled—artists.

Rodgers, 20, said Tuesday on "CBS This Morning" that Kelly, 51, instructed her to call him "daddy" and told her his goal was to teach her how to have sex like a "mature woman."

AP

A protester carries a sign prior to a concert featuring R. Kelly in Greensboro, N.C., Friday, May 11, 2018.

Her suit comes as Kelly faces growing criticism after years of being accused of troubling conduct toward girls and young women.

The Time's Up campaign against sexual harassment and assault took aim at the R&B singer last month. This month, a Chicago concert was canceled after protests. Spotify removed his music from its promoted playlists and algorithms following a #MuteR-Kelly social media campaign.

Rodgers said she met the three-time Grammy winner after a March 2017 concert in San Antonio. Two months later, she said he flew her to New York to attend a show.

She told "CBS This Morning" that she "submitted" to sex when he came to her hotel room and demanded she take off her clothes. She said she didn't want to have sex with him but "just froze up."

"He has this type of, like, intimidation right off the bat. You know? So I was just waiting for it to be over," she said.

Her lawsuit says Kelly disregarded her when she said she was "not ready to have sex" with him.

A pregnant Claire Danes mulls motherhood stress in new film

NEW YORK (AP)—A radiant Claire Danes walked the red carpet for the New York premiere of her new film, "A Kid Like Jake." She was glowing for a good reason—not just a new movie.

"I'm quite pregnant, but feeling good so far," Danes told The Associated Press. The actress is in her second trimester. It will be the second child for Danes and husband, Hugh Dancy.

Her co-star, Jim Parsons, was feeling good, too, though he strolled in with a cane and walking cast. It was the result of an onstage accident he sustained during his Broadway play, "The Boys in the Band."

"I injured it going to curtain call. I don't have any physical feats in this play that require me to jump or anything like that, I just tripped going down a goddamn stair, and cracked my foot and tore a ligament in my ankle," Parsons said.

As for the film, Danes and Parsons play the parents of a 4-year old boy named Jake who likes dressing up as a princess. The couple wonders if they should exploit Jake's gender nonconformity to gain an edge in school applications.

Danes identified with the challenge of finding the right school, because she was experiencing a similar issue while making the film.

At the New York premiere of family drama, "A Kid Like Jake," Claire Danes discusses relating to the story as a mother. (May 22)

"I related immediately to the story," she said. "When I shot the movie, my son was 4 years old, and I had just gone through that gauntlet of applying to kindergartens here in New York City, which is a unique kind of torture, really."

While the story deals with the topical discussion of gender identity, it's told through the lens of parenting, so it could easily apply to other types of family struggles. Danes said it taps into "that anxiety that we parents have that our children might be vulnerable out in the world."

Prince Harry, Meghan at first royal event as newlyweds

LONDON (AP)—Prince Harry and Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, on Tuesday attended their first royal event as newlyweds—a Buckingham Palace garden party honoring Harry's father, Prince Charles, for his many years of charitable work.

The long spell of sunny weather that gave their Saturday wedding a special glow continued Tuesday at the outdoor occasion.

More than 6,000 people involved with charities supported by Charles also attended the party in the vast palace gardens.

It is the first of many events to be held in advance of Charles' 70th birthday in November.

Meghan chose a pale pink dress by British label Goat for the occasion, worn with a matching saucer-style hat by milliner Philip Treacy.

Harry spoke in glowing words about his father's good deeds—despite being buzzed by a bee that momentarily threw him off his prepared remarks.

"It is your selfless drive to affect change, whether that is to improve the lives of those who are on the wrong path, to save an important piece of our national heritage or to protect a particular species under threat, which (Prince) William and I draw inspiration from every day," he said.

The event marks the first time Harry and Meghan have been seen in public since an evening reception on their wedding night.

AP

Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex walks with her husband Prince Harry during a garden party at Buckingham Palace in London, Tuesday May 22, 2018.

Daughter sees bleak future with mom she can't stomach

DEAR ABBY: My mother is a narcissist and a user. She has never held down a job and blames everyone else. We rarely get along for more than 15 minutes at a time.

I used to blame myself, but have realized over the years that I'm not alone in how I feel about her. The problem is, she doesn't realize her behavior is unacceptable. If you try to address it, it causes an argument. She has no idea that she has alienated herself from our family and has no friends. She loves me and I love her, but I can't stand to be around her.

I'm an only child. Because of the way she is there is no one else in her life. I'm responsible for 99 percent of her social interactions outside of work. What do I do? She says that because she has no savings, she will be moving in with me when she's older. The idea of taking care of her until she dies keeps me up at night.

Part of me wants a relationship with my mother -- more for her sake than for mine—but she's toxic. How do I handle her now and as she ages? I feel like a terrible person for feeling this way, but it's causing me increasing anxiety.

DISTRESSED DAUGHTER IN WISCONSIN

DEAR DAUGHTER: You are responsible for your mother's social life because you have placed yourself in that position. The person responsible for her social life as well as her financial situation is her, not you.

It is time to tell your mother she had better start putting money away for her old age because she will NOT be moving in with you. To take care of yourself does not make you a terrible person, so do not allow anyone to tell you that it does.

DEAR ABBY: I need advice on how to approach a friend, "Sarah," about a sensitive topic. She's pretty, but she dresses sloppily. Her pants are so loose they slip off her waist, her shirts are too tight and short, and she never wears makeup or jewelry.

I'd like to take her shopping for clothes that fit her better, especially as she has started looking for a new job and will need appropriate clothes for an interview. However, Sarah's a bit on the large side and sensitive about it, so she doesn't like shopping with others and refuses our offers to help. She also gets offended if someone points out that her clothes don't fit.

I don't want her wardrobe to impede her interviews, and I think she could benefit from a new look. How can I gently offer to go clothes-shopping with her so I can help her find nice clothes without offending her?

FASHIONISTA IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR FASHIONISTA: How is your friend doing in that job search? If she tells you it's not going well, that would be the time to offer your help. But do not approach the subject from a grooming perspective, which Sarah could regard as insulting. Instead, approach it from the job attire angle. Suggest she could make a better impression if she "dressed for success," and volunteer to help her pick out some things.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HOBBES, LOOK! DAD GOT ME MY OWN PAIR OF LITTLE BINOCULARS!
WOW, THESE ARE YOURS?
AREN'T THEY GREAT?
I'LL SAY.
DAD SAID AS LONG AS I WAS GOING TO BREAK BINOCULARS, I OUGHT TO AT LEAST BREAK MY OWN.
NOW WE CAN GO TO THE BEACH AND LOOK AT BABES!
MAYBE I SHOULD BREAK DAD'S POWER TOOLS AND SEE IF I COULD GET SOME OF THOSE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

KATY GAVE YOU A BOOK IDEA?
YEAH. AND IT'S PRETTY GOOD.
A CUTE YOUNG COFFEE BEAN'S JOURNEY FROM PLANT TO SOMEONE'S BELLY.
SO, A KIDS' BOOK.
OR... HEAR ME OUT...
OH, NO.
I SEE A TRILOGY. LIKE "THE HUNGER GAMES" BUT COFFEE-ER.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

DO YOU EVER PLAN ON GETTING MARRIED?
THAT'S ONE OF THE TWO THINGS YOU CAN'T EXPECT A FREE-SPIRIT REBEL LIKE ME TO DO!
WHAT'S THE OTHER?
PAYING OVER A HUNDRED BUCKS TO RENT A TUX.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

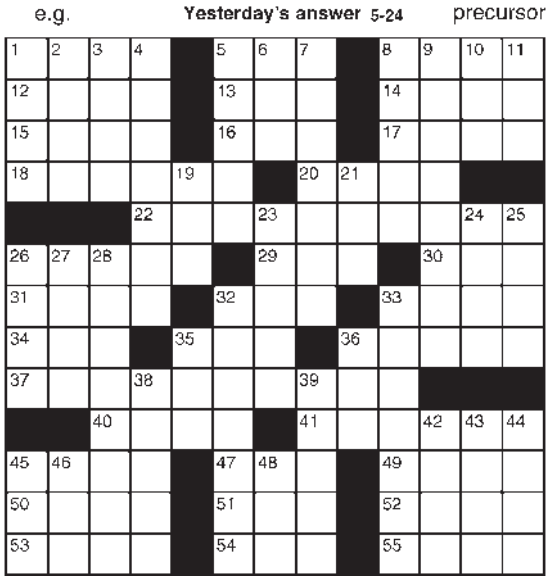
1 Coffee cups
5 Part of RSVP
8 Swine
12 — uproar
13 Travail
14 PC programs
15 Missile shelter
16 "Life of Pi" director Lee
17 Calendar quota
18 Like a clear night sky
20 Taxi alternative
22 Cole Porter musical
26 Throat affliction
29 Allow
30 Gift from Santa
31 Rind
32 Insult, slangily
33 Viral video, e.g.
34 Curved letter
35 — Tin Tin
36 Relaxes
37 Tightwad
40 Intends
41 Plagues
45 Misfortunes
47 Actress Longoria
49 Jog
50 Yuletide tune
51 300, to Cato
52 Latvia's capital
53 Protuberance
54 Numerical prefix
55 Fine

DOWN

1 Avoid
2 Squad
3 Big bash
4 Diver's breathing device
5 Convinces
6 Charged bit
7 Lentils, for example
8 "Frida" star Salma
9 Performs surgery
10 Transcript no.
11 Old map letters
19 Wardrobe malfunction
21 Wager
23 Move furtively
24 Heavy reading?
25 Peepers
26 Detail, briefly
27 TV/radio host John
28 Closed again, as an envelope
32 Analyze in detail
33 Orchestra leader
35 Spinning stat
36 Paris summer
38 Bridal path
39 Early calculators
42 Composer Satie
43 Forum wear
44 Remain
45 Hostel
46 Privy
48 TiVo precursor

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 5-24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mark Ballas, 32; John C. Reilly, 53; Priscilla Presley, 73; Bob Dylan, 77.

Happy Birthday: Interact more. Travel, business meetings and putting physical energy behind your ideas and intentions will help you reach your goals this year. Experiencing different cultures and lifestyles will lead to interesting changes in the way you do things and how you move forward with important relationships. Socializing will lead to new beginnings as well as interesting prospects. Your numbers are 5, 18, 20, 26, 33, 39, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Look at the bright side and talk matters through with anyone you feel might be going through uncertainty or waffling about plans you are making together. Put in the time and energy required to make a difference. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Physical changes will turn out well. You'll have added discipline to reach physical goals such as starting a diet or enforcing a regular routine that is geared toward better health. Focus on your relationships with others. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Make contact with someone who has experience or with an organization that could use your skills and attributes to bring about positive change. Reaching out and sharing your feelings will encourage better relationships. Children, lovers and entertaining activities are highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Don't sweat the small stuff. If you waste time fretting over things you cannot change, you will miss out on something that can lead to positive gains. Look for openings, opportunities and a way to use your skills masterfully. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Think before you take action. Good things will happen if you think matters through and you don't let your emotions take over. Excess will result in loss as well as regret. Hard work will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You need to get out more and interact with people who have something to offer. Living life fully will lead to experience and knowledge that will help you cope better. Change can be good if you are strategic and informed. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Put your heart into making self-improvements. Don't let what others want dictate how you move forward. You are the master of your happiness and your destination. Make wise choices that will lead to a better future. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* It's all about you. Look inward and consider what your needs are. Don't be afraid to follow the road less traveled. Do your own thing, and explore how best to use your skills to encourage personal and financial growth. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Put more into how you earn your living. Hard work will pay off if you are willing to go the extra mile to reach your goal. Don't fold under pressure when dealing with important relationship issues. Listen and make a counteroffer. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Not everyone will like the choices you make. Stick close to home, and make the necessary changes that will add to your comfort and make your daily tasks more convenient. A romantic gesture will improve your personal life. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Make a physical move or alter your living quarters to better suit your needs as well as your budget. Refuse to go into debt when someone puts pressure on you to spend more when you should be spending less. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Financial gains can be yours if you make changes to your personal investments. Consider what you no longer need and sell off items that will open up your cash flow to better serve your needs. Focus on love and happiness, not possessions. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are kind, understanding and generous. You are energetic and helpful.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9	2			7	1		8	5
	5		9		6		2	
1 5		2				4		8
		9				5		7
	6		5		4		3	
8	3		2	9			5	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

2	4	8	1	5	7	9	6	3
9	1	3	4	6	8	2	5	7
7	5	6	9	2	3	1	8	4
3	8	7	5	9	4	6	2	1
5	2	4	6	7	1	3	9	8
6	9	1	8	3	2	7	4	5
1	6	9	7	4	5	8	3	2
4	7	2	3	8	9	5	1	6
8	3	5	2	1	6	4	7	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/23

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES Solution: 7 letters

T	I	D	E	R	C	G	L	E	U	F	L	G	T	L
D	F	T	P	S	N	A	N	R	E	N	N	I	D	A
E	S	I	E	I	E	O	S	C	L	I	P	(R)	S	I
N	R	T	G	M	H	I	A	H	L	S	T	(E)	K	T
T	M	D	N	P	S	N	T	O	E	N	V	(N)	O	N
A	O	P	E	E	R	A	O	I	E	A	O	(T)	O	E
L	N	L	U	U	M	H	G	M	S	I	T	I	C	S
E	E	S	F	R	C	E	T	N	T	S	T	I	E	S
T	Y	A	E	S	C	R	R	A	I	A	E	I	N	E
R	A	T	E	I	A	H	L	I	C	H	R	C	S	G
L	F	X	C	P	R	U	A	I	U	E	T	D	E	F
A	A	I	A	A	C	U	D	S	C	Q	N	O	O	N
T	I	O	L	L	B	E	X	O	E	E	E	O	L	N
O	S	L	A	E	M	L	R	U	P	S	D	R	A	C
T	G	C	H	A	R	G	E	S	L	I	G	H	T	S

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Aftermath, Apartment, Cable, Calculation, Cards, Cash, Charges, Clothing, Cook, Credit, Dental, Dinner, Essential, File, Food, Fuel, Furnace, Gift, Groceries, Heating, Items, Lights, List, Lodging, Luxuries, Meals, Medication, Money, Necessities, Purchases, Rate, Rent, Requirements, Save, Schooling, Soap, Spend, Taxes, Telephone, Tips, Total, Trip

Yesterday's Answer: Protect

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PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-DLNR-088 (A-C)

SUBMISSION/OPENINGDATE: JUNE 18, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE & INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS (A), GENERATOR HOUSING CONSTRUCTION (B), & UNIT FOR THE KAGMAN WATER WELL PROJECT, SAIPAN (C) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES"

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THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHITIIBING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ANTHONY T. BENAVENTE
SECRETARY, DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
RFP NO.: RFP18-DPW-090 (A-B)

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 18, 2018 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY (A) AND FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION (B)

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THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLES 5, SECTION 8652 (A) – (D)

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHITIIBING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

JOE HILL, Esq.
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753
Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ALBERT R. VITUG, Petitioner, Versus **VICKY PINEDA-VITUG** Respondent.	)))))	FCD DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0183 **SUMMONS**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweeme, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 7th day of May, 2018

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

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Boone ejected for first time; Rangers stun Yankees

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Aaron Boone has been ejected from a game for the first time as a big league manager.

Boone, managing his 46th game for the New York Yankees, was tossed by home plate Pat Hoberg with two outs in the sixth inning of Tuesday night's game at Texas after apparently arguing balls and strikes from the dugout.

Hoberg glanced into the Yankees dugout after calling a high strike that put Gary Sanchez in an 0-2 count. The umpire then ejected Boone, who came out of the dugout and had a few choice words for Hoberg before leaving the field.

Sanchez eventually drew a walk against Cole Hamels before Didi Gregorius popped out to end the inning with the Yankees trailing 6-1. The Rangers won, 6-4.

Hamels limited the slugging Yankees to four hits over seven innings, and Jurickson Profar and Ronald Guzman homered for the last-place Rangers.

AP

Texas Rangers' Isiah Kiner-Falefa (9) slides safely back into second base ahead of the tag of New York Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius on a pickoff attempt during the first inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, May 22, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

Red Sox 4, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Mookie Betts hit his major league-leading 16th homer, Chris Sale struck out nine in 7 2/3 innings and the Boston Red Sox beat the Tampa Bay Rays.

Sale (5-1) gave up four hits and walked two. He has allowed three runs or fewer in his first 11 starts, the longest stretch by a Boston pitcher to open a season since Pedro Martinez's 12 in 2001.

Braves 3, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Ozzie Albies hit his 14th homer and Brandon McCarthy tossed 5 2/3 sharp innings, leading Atlanta to the victory.

McCarthy (5-2) allowed one run and four hits. He is 4-0 with a 2.08 ERA against Philadelphia this season and 1-2 with a 6.60 ERA against the rest of the league.

Vince Velasquez (4-5) gave up two runs—one earned—and fanned nine in 4 2/3 innings. He fell to 0-4 against the Braves.

Indians 10, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Jose Ramirez hit his 14th homer and the Indians routed the Cubs in their first meeting at Wrigley Field since the 2016 World Series.

The AL Central leaders moved back to .500 with an easy victory against the team that beat them two years ago to end a 108-year championship drought.

Ramirez got the blowout going with his three-run drive in the third.

Astros 11, Giants 2

In Houston, Gerrit Cole struck out eight in six innings, leading Houston to the victory.

Both of the runs off Cole (5-1) scored on a fifth-inning homer by Brandon Crawford, whose sister Amy is married to Cole.

Tony Kemp had two hits and a career-high five RBI as Houston won for the fifth time in six games.

Reds 7, Pirates 2

In Cincinnati, Matt Harvey pitched six innings of one-run ball for his first victory with Cincinnati, and Scooter Gennett hit his fifth grand slam over the last two seasons.

Harvey (1-2) gave up three hits in his third start for the Reds, who acquired him from the Mets for catcher Devin Mesoraco on May 8.

Nationals 2, Padres 1

In Washington, Bryce Harper hit his NL-leading 15th homer for Washington, and Michael Taylor's one-out double in the ninth scored the game-winning run.

Juan Soto, the youngest player in the majors, reached base in all four at-bats in his second career start. The 19-year-old led off the ninth with his third walk, took second on Wilmer Difo's groundout and scored on Taylor's hit off the center-field wall against Matt Strahm (0-2).

Brewers 1, Diamondbacks 0

In Milwaukee, Jhoulys Chacin and three relievers combined on a three-hitter, sending Milwaukee to the win.

Domingo Santana drove in the only run with a sacrifice fly in the sixth inning for the NL Central leaders. Milwaukee (30-19) moved a season-high 11 games over .500, while the Diamondbacks have lost six in a row and 12 of 13.

Twins 6, Tigers 0

In Minneapolis, Minnesota's Lance Lynn gave up five hits over 6 2/3 innings in his most efficient outing of the season, and Brian Dozier drove in three runs with a pair of doubles.

Lynn (2-4) lowered his jumbo ERA from 7.47 to 6.34 in his ninth start, striking out four and walking one. Dozier's two-run liner capped a three-run fifth for Minnesota.

Royals 5, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Alex Gordon and Salvador Perez homered for Kansas City, helping Jason Hammel to his first victory of the season.

Hammel (1-5) allowed one run and nine hits in seven innings. He struck out six and walked none.

Gordon added two singles in a 3-for-4 night after entering the game hitless in his previous 14 at-bats.

Blue Jays 5, Angels 3

In Toronto, Kendrys Morales hit a two-run homer, J.A. Happ won his second straight start and Toronto stopped a four-game losing streak.

Morales connected for his fourth homer in the Blue Jays' five-run first against Garrett Richards (4-3).

Los Angeles has lost eight of 11.

Marlins 5, Mets 1

In New York, Miami's Caleb Smith pitched neatly into the seventh inning against a Mets lineup that included newcomer Jose Bautista.

Derek Dietrich homered and J.T. Realmuto got three hits as the Marlins, the lowest-scoring team in the majors, ended a three-game skid.

White Sox 3, Orioles 2

In Chicago, Yolmer Sanchez capped Chicago's three-run eighth with a tiebreaking RBI single, lifting the White Sox to the victory.

Welington Castillo also had an RBI single and Yoan Moncada added a sacrifice fly as last-place Chicago won for the fourth time in six games.

Dodgers 5, Rockies 3

In Los Angeles, Chris Taylor hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the sixth inning and Yasiel Puig followed with a solo shot, rallying Los Angeles past NL West-leading Colorado.

The victory snapped the Dodgers' five-game skid against Colorado at home, where they are just 9-14 overall.

Matt Kemp continued his hot hitting, going 2 for 4 with a run scored. His RBI single with two outs in the first provided the Dodgers' first run.

Mariners 3, Athletics 2, 10 innings

In Oakland, Mike Zunino hit a two-run homer in the seventh inning and Guillermo Heredia doubled home the go-ahead run in the 10th to lift Seattle over Oakland.

The Mariners have won four straight games and six of eight.

NFL unanimously approves Tepper's $2.2B purchase of Panthers

ATLANTA (AP)—The new owner of the Carolina Panthers is committed to keeping the team in the Carolinas.

And Charlotte is clearly his preferred choice.

But David Tepper left a bit of wiggle room on his first day as owner of the team.

The NFL unanimously approved Tepper's $2.2 billion purchase of the team from Jerry Richardson on Tuesday, leading to immediate questions about the new owner's thoughts on replacing 22-year-old Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte.

"What's the name of the team? Carolina Panthers. It's going to be the Carolina Panthers," Tepper said. "And that means this team has to have some kind of presence in the Carolinas and last time I saw, how many are there? That's right, there's two of them."

Tepper seemed to be implying that he might consider other cities in North and South Carolina if efforts to build a new stadium in Charlotte fall through. The lease with Bank of America Stadium runs for only one more season.

But Tepper reiterated several times that the largest city in the Carolinas is the best place for the team.

"There is a logical place for this team, and it's Charlotte," he said. "And far as a new stadium, again, you're asking me too much and the only thing I have a market on now is lack of knowledge. I'll call it stupidity, so I've got that down. I'll learn a lot more in the future."

Tepper's purchase was the first order of business at the league's spring meeting in Atlanta. He was quickly approved after passing muster with the owners' finance committee during a morning session.

"We congratulate David and welcome him to the NFL," Commissioner Roger Goodell said.

Tepper is paying an NFL-record price to buy the team from Jerry Richardson, the team's founder and only owner since the Panthers entered the league in 1995.

Richardson abruptly announced he was selling the team last December after coming under investigation from the league for sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace. The probe is ongoing.

Tepper is the founder and president of global hedge fund Appaloosa Management, with a reported net worth of $11 billion. Already familiar to the league as a minority owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers, his purchase was quickly approved.

Tepper said he plans to formally take over the team in July.

In the meantime, he reserved judgment on both a new stadium and those who are running the football side of things, most notably general manager Marty Hurney and coach Ron Rivera.

"I do think they have a great team down there right now," Tepper said. "The biggest thing I can do is have a great appreciation of how stupid I am. Sometimes, it's better to do nothing than to do something."

Bank of America will be the NFL's seventh-oldest stadium after Los Angeles opens its new facility for the Rams and Chargers , and the Raiders complete their move from Oakland to Las Vegas .

Rockets rally past Warriors to tie series

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Chris Paul pounded the ball down demonstratively on Stephen Curry's home court in sheer delight.

And maybe he sent a little message: These Rockets are for real and very much remain in the championship chase.

Houston handled the defending champions in their hostile, imposing home arena and sustained the latest second-half flurry by Curry, getting 30 points from James Harden and another 27 from Paul to even the Western Conference finals at two games apiece with a 95-92 victory Tuesday night.

Curry scored 28 points and Kevin Durant added 27 points and 12 rebounds but the Warriors missed their final five shots from the floor and their NBA-record postseason winning streak at home ended at 16 games.

The Rockets shook off a 41-point embarrassment in Game 3, a 12-0 deficit to start Tuesday and another big run by the Warriors in the third, then won it with defense down the stretch.

"We're a team. We're really good as a team," Harden said.

Paul rebounded Klay Thompson's miss just before the final buzzer sounded for the first time and celebrated in front of a stunned, yellow-clad home crowd. A replay review ensued and it was determined Shaun Livingston fouled Paul before the game ended, so Paul made a free throw with 0.5 seconds left.

And he did it all playing on a tender foot.

"A whole lot of treatment," Paul said. "It's as good as it's going to be right now."

Curry couldn't get off a final attempt before the buzzer.

Game 5 is Thursday night at Houston. Golden State, which went a record 16-1 on the way to last year's title, will play its longest playoff round after closing out its first two series in five games.

"Now we've got to fight and really understand that this is a true playoff-type experience," Curry said.

Golden State got the ball with 1:27 to play down 94-91 and Thompson and Curry each missed contested 3-pointers.

The Warriors got another chance with 42.5 seconds left following Houston's shot-clock violation. Curry missed a driving layup and Draymond Green pulled down the offensive rebound and was fouled by Paul, but Green converted only one free throw.

"I thought this is the highest level we've ever played defensively, without a doubt," Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni said, "because we're talking about the best offensive team ever."

The Rockets went ahead 85-84 with 6:03 remaining on Trevor Ariza's 3-pointer from the baseline after a beautiful bounce pass from the opposite corner by Paul.

Golden State trailed 91-86 with 3:30 left following a pair of free throws by Eric Gordon, then Curry converted a three-point play moments later.

Green wound up with 11 points, 13 rebounds and eight assists while going at it with Paul all night in Game 4—the first nail-biter so far in a series that had featured only lopsided results of 13 points or more.

"I'm sure we'll look at the film and kick ourselves," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "Look, this is a great team we're playing. They won 65 games for a reason."

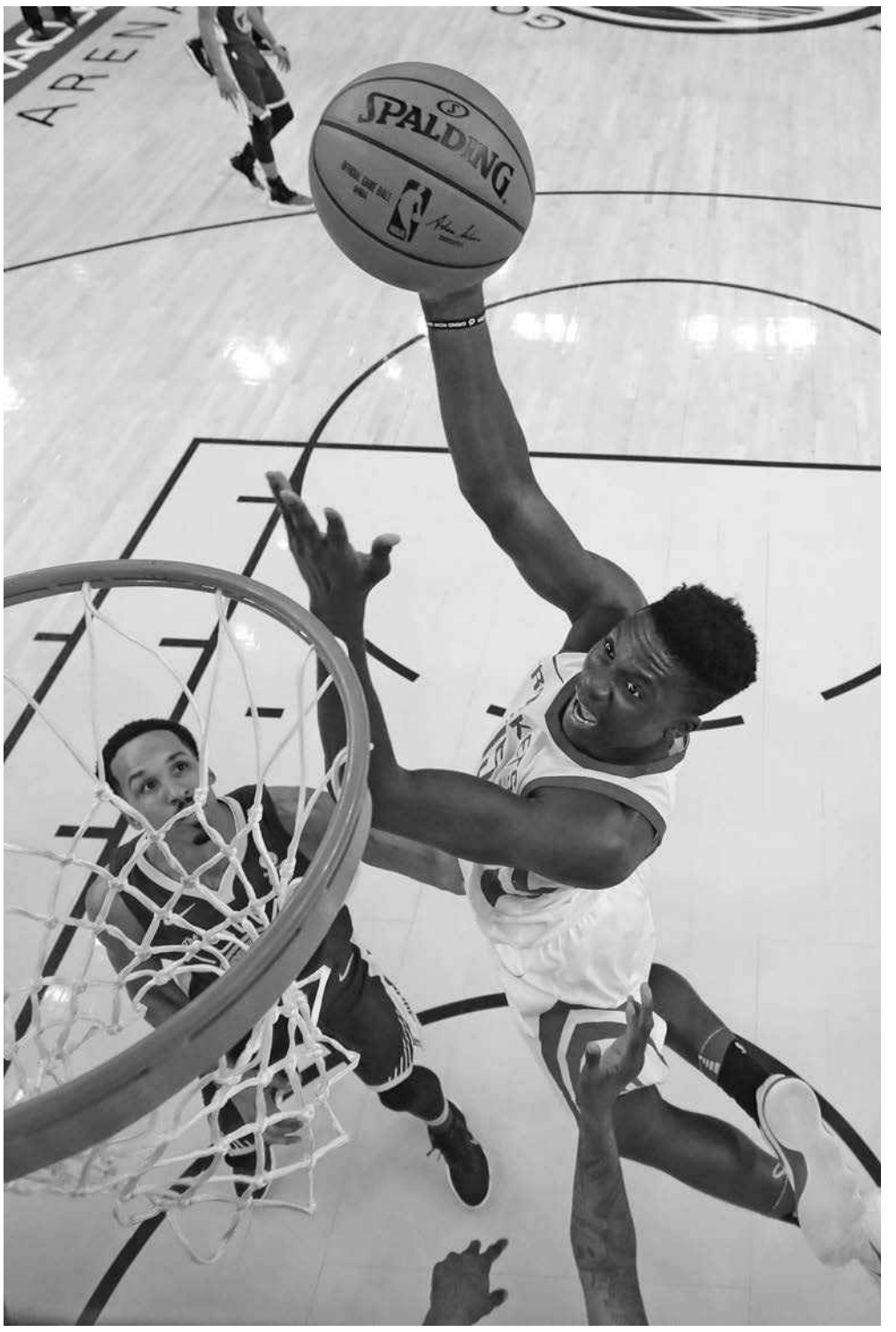
Curry knocked down three straight 3-pointers during a key third-quarter sequence in which he scored 11 consecutive points before Thompson's 3.

Down 53-46 at halftime two days after a franchise playoff-record 41-point victory in Sunday's 126-85 win, Curry shined in the second half once more. He scored 17 in all during the third-quarter spurt.

Curry came out and hit a 3 from the top and seemed on his way to another spectacular finish until the late misses on a night both Western Conference powers shot just 39 percent.

His 3-pointer from 29 feet out at the 5:43 mark of the third got Golden State back within 62-60 then he knocked down another moments later on the Warriors' next possession for the lead. Then, another from the baseline before a driving layup to the left.

Much-improved Warriors big man Kevon Looney, who shed 30 pounds last offseason, earned his first career postseason start in place of injured Andre Iguodala and had four points and six rebounds.



AP

Houston Rockets' Clint Capela, right, shoots over Golden State Warriors' Shaun Livingston during the first half in Game 4 of the NBA basketball Western Conference Finals Tuesday, May 22, 2018, in Oakland, Calif.

Celtics hope return home can slow LeBron, Cavs

BOSTON (AP)—The Celtics expected to see a different LeBron James in Cleveland after the Cavaliers fell into a 2-0 hole to open the Eastern Conference finals.

Two games and back-to-back wins later , James has reminded everyone exactly why he's been to seven straight NBA Finals.

Boston will be back in the embrace of its raucous fans at TD Garden for Game 5 on Wednesday. But a team that has thrived on youth this postseason suddenly looks disoriented without a go-to player and opposite a more veteran squad that has found a new attitude thanks to the fuel being provided by its biggest star.

Celtics coach Brad Stevens said all you can do against James is "make it as hard as you can."

"LeBron is the best player of this generation and he's just maintained that because of his commitment to improvement," Stevens said. "He's always been an unbelievable physical player. He's always been a savvy player. And he's always had, just like the natural instincts to make the right basketball play along with his tremendous skill set."

While the Cavs are certainly feeling rejuvenated behind the play of James, coach Tyronn Lue said it hasn't changed their sense of urgency.

"We still gotta play," Lue said. "We have veteran guys who have been there and know what it takes, but this is a young team, a good team that's playing at home so experience is not going to be a factor. We have to come in there and have the same mentality that we had in Game 3 and 4."

Two games ago, the numbers seemed all on the Celtics' side.

They had moved to 9-0 at home during these playoffs and taken 2-0 series lead, which has been a magic number for a franchise yet to surrender such an advantage during its storied history (37-0). Over the last 96 minutes, Boston has been outscored by 39 points, has dropped to 1-6 on the road and is suddenly facing a must-win game to maintain home-court advantage.

Stevens said at the start of the playoffs that he believed there was value in the greenness of a young group that had several players getting their first taste of postseason basketball. He was proven right with Terry Rozier, Jaylen Brown and rookie Jayson Tatum all thriving as first-time postseason starters.

Their success had the cumulative effect of masking the absences of Kyrie Irving and Gordon Hayward. Now, the lack of an alpha like Irving capable of creating his own shot is sticking out with every 40-point game James produces.

Al Horford, Boston's only healthy All-Star, was never a dominant scorer, but more of a facilitator who worked well in a finely tuned system.

Horford started off the series strong but his scoring and assist numbers have declined over the last two games.

Lue's move to reinsert Tristan Thompson back into the starting lineup in Game 2 is a huge reason.

Thompson has not only helped things move better on the offensive end for Cleveland , he's combined with Larry Nance to make things difficult on Horford. Horford had just four shots and seven points in 30 minutes in Game 3. He scored 15 points in Game 4 but was just 5-of-13 from the field with one assist.

Simmons, Mitchell make NBA All-Rookie team

NEW YORK (AP)—Philadelphia's Ben Simmons and Utah's Donovan Mitchell are unanimous selections to the NBA's All-Rookie team.

The two guards received all 100 first-place votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Both players helped their teams reach the second round of the playoffs.

Boston's Jayson Tatum also was selected Tuesday to the first team, falling one vote short of unanimous. Simmons, Mitchell and Tatum are the three finalists for the NBA's Rookie of the Year award.

Lakers forward Kyle Kuzma (93 first-team votes) and Chicago's Lauri Markkanen (76) rounded out the first team.

The second team was guards Dennis Smith Jr. of Dallas and Lonzo Ball of the Lakers, Atlanta forward John Collins, Sacramento guard Bogdan Bogdanovic and Phoenix forward Josh Jackson.

Meanwhile, Hall of Fame basketball player Dikembe Mutombo will receive the Sager Strong Award at this year's NBA Awards show.

The award is named for longtime Turner Sports sideline reporter Craig Sager and presented annually to an individual who has been a trailblazer while exemplifying courage, faith, compassion and grace.

Mutombo's honor was announced Tuesday by the NBA and Turner.

The four-time Defensive Player of the Year created the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation to improve conditions for people in his native Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Biamba Marie Mutombo Hospital has treated nearly a quarter of a million people since opening in 2007.

Ol'Aces Real Deal hammers 670 Sonics XVII

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Ol'Aces Real Deal crushed the 670 Sonics XVII, 75-45, in the boys U18 division game in the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Four Ol'Aces players scored in double figures to notch the easy win. K.J. Kabiriel led the way for the unbeaten Ol'Aces Real Deal after firing 19 points, while Coby Santos added 17, and N-nes Siech and Dean Blake added 16 and 13, respectively.

A 26-12 scoring in the first quarter helped the Ol'Aces Real Deal set up the lopsided victory. Kabiriel anchored the winning team's strong start after drilling 9 points in the opening quarter.

Santos, Blake, and Siech then stepped up in the remaining three periods to whip the hapless 670 Sonics XVII. Blake had a string of 6 points in the second quarter and Santos added 8 in that period, while Siech also tallied 6 straight points in the third canto. Kabiriel then finished what he started, recording 7 of the Ol'Aces Real Deal's last 9 markers.

Royce Ben and Paulo Cadag made 10 points each on a losing effort for the 670 Sonics XVII.

Meanwhile, the 670 Sonics XVI edged the NMI Rollers in last Tuesday's game, 54-51.

The 670 Sonics XVI built an early double-digit lead in the first quarter and gained enough cushion in the third to withstand the NMI Rollers' rally in the fourth.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces Real Deal's K.J. Kabiriel, seen here driving against a Saipan Vegas player, scored 19 points in their 75-45 win over the 670 Sonics XVII.

The winning squad established a 17-6 advantage after the first period, as it held the NMI Rollers to three field goals in the opening canto. The 670 Sonics XVI then padded the lead in the second, 33-18, and third periods, 45-30, before the NMI Rollers fought back in the fourth, but fell short.

New FIFA events won't get OK before World Cup

SWITZERLAND (AP)—FIFA President Gianni Infantino has discarded plans to seek approval for a $25-billion overhaul of competitions before the World Cup amid resistance from UEFA, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Faced with a deadline from a consortium of global investors, Infantino wanted the go-ahead from his FIFA Council by now to push ahead with plans for an expanded Club World Cup and the Nations League, a mini-World Cup every two years.

While the proposals were backed by leading clubs, including Barcelona and Real Madrid, there has been opposition from UEFA, which expressed "serious reservations" about the rush to a decision on the biggest revamp of football competitions this century.

The lack of consensus prevented Infantino from calling an extraordinary council meeting to meet a 60-day deadline from a consortium of global investors who are willing to underwrite a guaranteed $25 billion in income from the new competitions.

FIFA has secured an extension from the consortium to continue negotiations with football stakeholders to overcome initial hostility, the person familiar with the situation said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the private negotiations.

Infantino has to give notice of at least 14 days to convene a meeting of the FIFA Council, which means an additional gathering to advance the competition plans could happen in Russia during the June 14-July 15 World Cup.

While Infantino has convinced some teams to back his plans in public, the umbrella European Club Association has called for the workload on players to be reduced rather than increased.

Skepticism around Infantino's plans for the Club World Cup and Nations League center on the sparse information provided to football leaders about the financial offer from a Japanese-led, Saudi-backed consortium.

The World Leagues Forum, which includes the leaders of the English Premier League and Spain's La Liga, is also concerned about the prize money from the enlarged Club World Cup disrupting the competitive balance in domestic leagues.

A 24-team Club World Cup would be worth at least $3 billion for each edition, played in June-July every fourth year from 2021 through 2033. Half the slots would be taken by European clubs, ensuring the competition could challenge the status of the UEFA-run Champions League.

The Nations League plan was originally conceived as a European competition by UEFA, where Infantino was general secretary before succeeding Sepp Blatter at FIFA in 2016. A global version was devised last year by the new UEFA leadership and subsequently adopted by FIFA to attract investors.

KANOA-1

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hit the go-ahead in the 11th.

In other results in the division, Shirley's notched its second win after dominating Kanoa-2, 10-4.

Katrina Costales powered Shirley's to the victory after firing six goals. She scored four straight goals from the seventh to the 27th minute, while her two other shots were recorded in the third and 38th. Diana Maniacop added three goals, which also came in succession, while Marrielle Gariguez made one.

Shirley's will go for win No. 3 tonight when it faces TanHoldings in the penultimate game in the division. For the last game, Paire will take on Kanoa-2.

DIVISION B
MPU-1 7, MPU-2 2

MP United FC-1 fortified its hold on the top spot in Division B after beating sister team MP United-2 last Sunday at the Chacha Oceanview Middle School Field.

MP United-1 now has a 5-1-1 record, two wins ahead of MY Pros and Paire, which have similar 3-1-2 marks. TanHoldings (2-1-3), MPU-2 (1-2-4), and Shirley's (1-2-3) complete the standings.

Malika Miyawaki led MP United-1 victory last weekend after drilling a hat trick. She hit the board in the 17th, 26th, and 32nd minute. Julia Ishikawa added a pair in the third and 14th minute, while Julie Hall and Lydia Tan contributed one each. Marie Aldan made the brace for MP United-2.

Paire 3, TanHoldings 2

Paire gained win No. 3 after slipping past TanHoldings in the other match in the division.

Anisa Villagomez registered two goals for Paire, including the go-ahead in the 53rd minute. Her other goals was posted in the 33rd minute, while Miles River drew first blood for Paire in the ninth.

Kaithlynn Andrei Chavez knocked in a pair of goals for TanHoldings.

Meanwhile, Shirley's got a free win last weekend, as MY Pros did not have enough players (only five at the start of the game) for the 4pm match.

Standings As of May 20, 2018

Dove Women's League

Division A

CLUBS	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Kanoa FC-1	8	7	1	0	42	29	13	22
Paire FC	7	4	0	3	43	27	16	12
Kanoa FC-2	7	3	1	3	36	35	1	10
Shirley's FC	7	2	0	5	30	34	-4	6
TanHoldings FC	7	1	0	6	6	32	-26	3

Division B

MPU-1	7	5	1	1	22	7	15	16
MYPros	6	3	1	2	11	8	3	10
Paire FC	6	3	1	2	9	9	0	10
TanHoldings FC	6	2	1	3	16	11	5	7
MPU-2	7	1	2	4	7	17	-10	5
Shirley's FC	6	1	2	3	4	17	-13	5

CAROL

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with Ukita in the next round at the bottom half of the draw.

At the bottom half, Yun pulled off an upset over No. 6 Sakura Kurokawa of Japan, 6-2, 6-2. Yun will next duel Leung, who moved into the quarterfinals following a 6-4, 7-5 triumph against Japan's Nanari Katsumi.

Meanwhile, the girls doubles games continue today with Lee and Lin seeded first and going up against Iagarahi and Kurokawa, who ousted the Heras and Nelson, 6-2, 6-2.

In other doubles results yesterday, Kaga and Miyawaki marched into the quarterfinals after outlasting Gregoire and Tan, 1-6, 7-5 (11-9). Kaga and Miyawaki will next challenge the No. 2 seed Kozaki and Leung for a spot to the semifinals.

In the boys division singles, Ken Song and Seung Hyun Kim faltered in their first round assignments as they bowed to South Korea's Ha-neul Choe, 1-6, 4-6, and the U.S.' Maxwell Omalley, 0-6, 1-6.

With Song and Kim joining Ji Wan Ryu, Seung Jin Paik, Jimin Wo, and Richard Steele in the showers, only Robbie Schorr and Sean Lee are in the race for the singles crown.

Schorr will be squaring off against No. 3 seed Jose Antonio Tria at Court 2 at 9:30am, while in the first game at the same court, Lee will also collide against a seeded player in No.7 and Chinese-Taipei's Ming-Chieh Chiu.

In the doubles, the championship will be contested by the visiting players, as all CNMI bets were eliminated yesterday.

Siblings Suk and Sukhee Ann ousted Schorr and OMalley, 6-3, 7-5, while another Korean pair—Choe and Donggyu Kim—booted out Lee and Song, 4-6, 6-1, 10-4. Australia's Alexey Shtengelov and Mitchell Smith downed Seung Hyun Kim and Ryu, 6-0, 6-1, while Deisa and Tomi Perica, also from the Land Down Under, topped Paik and Woo, 6-2, 6-3.

4

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after collecting 42 points. Five other swimmers were entered in the division.

In the boys U7, two Tsunami Saipan swimmers also placed in the Top 3 with Aasish Dangol and Kouki Watanabe coming in at second and third, respectively. Aasish scored 66 points, just 2 markers behind champion Luke Leon Guerrero of Tsunami Guam. Kouki tallied 47 markers to tie Tsunami Guam's Angelo Soriano for third place.

In the 11 to 12 age group, Tsunami Saipan had a sweep with Ashley and Aleksenko topping the girls and boys field. Ashley gained 72 points to beat teammate Nanaka (66) and Tsunami Guam's Airi Inoue (59). Siblings Asaka and Shoko Litulumar were ranked fourth and fifth after registering 52 and 46 points, respectively.

Aleksenko totaled 70 points to prevail against Tsunami Guam's Ty Leon Guerrero (61) and Manhoben Swim Club's Israel Poppe (55). Aleksenko's teammates Xans Xu (54), Alex Kim (36), and Kean Pajarillaga (34) placed fourth fifth, and seventh.

In the boys 13 to 14, Tenorio edged out Manhoben's Mark Imazu, 63-60, while Tsunami Guam's Luis Entera (56) rounded out the Top 3. Tsunami Saipan' Joseph Zhang had 27 points and was ranked seventh in his debut in the meet.

Meanwhile, Nanaka reset the CNMI age group record (11 to 12) in the 50m breaststroke after clocking in at 38.80 seconds. She owned the previous mark (38.85 seconds) logged on Jan. 20, 2018. Nanaka's older sister, Aika, also earned an age group record (13 to 14) after submitting 35.07 seconds in the 50m backstroke and eclipsing the 35.10 seconds Angel Marie Tan tallied on Sept. 29, 2012.

In other results, Kim got an AA time in his debut in the meet after posting 31.41 seconds in the 50m freestyle.

Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura lauded Kim's performance in the meet along with the times of Shuman Barman and Regan in the 50m freestyle event. Barman clocked in at 38.41 seconds, while Regan recorded 38.79.

In the 200m backstroke, Kimura said Pajarillaga nearly achieved an A time after completing the four-lap race in 3:00.39

"Overall, I'm very satisfied with our results in the meet. Guam Champs is very tough meet, but Tsunami swimmers kept their fighting spirit and showed their Tsunami Saipan pride. I'm so proud of them," Kimura said.

2018 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Runners compete in the 1,500m race of the 2018 Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships held early this month at the Oleai Sports Complex oval.

A female student hands the baton to her teammate during the 4x400m relay race, while other runners wait for their turn.

Girls U7 runners sprint to the finish line during the 60m race.

Boys U7 runners push themselves as they head to the finish line of the 60m race.

A U7 student lands at the sand after doing the long jump event.

Volunteers give instructions to the students before starting the long jump event.

Saipan International School's Phoenix Gross joins the softball throw contest.

A Mt. Carmel School student takes off during the long jump event.

Boone ejected for first time; Rangers stun Yankees

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Sports

Rockets rally past Warriors to tie series

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Carol delivers, makes q'finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Top-ranked Carol Lee made her presence felt in the 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships by sweeping her second round foe yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard courts.

ITF Juniors

Lee outclassed Japan's Yuina Igarashi, 6-1, 6-3, to win her first match in this ITF Juniors tournament and lead the quarterfinalists in the 32-player draw. In the Round of 8, Lee will face another Japanese foe in No. 5 seed Mio Kozaki, who eliminated CNMI player Coume Kaga, 6-0, 6-0.

Isabel Heras, also suffered a shutout loss to No. 8 and Japan's Manaki Ukita, leaving Lee the lone Commonwealth player in contention for the singles championship. Earlier in the first round last Monday, Maria Gregoire, Tania Tan, and Malika Miyawaki bowed to their respective opponents.

Joining Lee, Kozaki, and Ukita in the quarterfinals are No. 4 Chui Kei Lung and No. 2 Wing Ka Lin of Hong Kong, No. 3 Ai Yamaguchi of Japan and the unseeded Eunseo Yun and Gi Woo Choi of South Korea.

Choi stunned No. 7 seed Mua Shigeta of Jaoan, 6-1, 5-7, 6-3, to set up a Round of 8 tiff against Lin, who swept Australia's Sasha Nelson, 6-1, 6-0. Yamaguchi also took only two sets to down South Korea's Min Kyo Kim, 6-0, 6-0, and arranged a meeting

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI's Carol Lee returns to Japan's Yuina Igarashi during their second round match in the girls singles event of the 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan hard courts.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Football Club-1's Sharmaine Francisco, right, battles a TanHoldings FC defender for possession during their Division A game in the 2018 Dove Spring Women's League last Thursday TSL Sports Complex's artificial turf.

Kanoa-1 clinches Division A crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Dove Women's League

Kanoa Football Club-1 kept its undefeated record in the 2018 Dove Spring Women's League to secure the Division A championship in the five-team field.

Kanoa-1 finished the double-round robin tournament with a 7-1-0 win-draw-loss record following a 2-1 triumph over TanHoldings FC last Thursday at the TSL Sports Complex's artificial turf. Kanoa-1 is the first team to complete its assignments this season and led by three wins against the second-running Paire (4-0-3). Kanoa-2 (3-1-3), Shirley's FC (2-0-5), and TanHoldings (1-0-6) round out the standings.

Paulynn Grace Joyce and Sharmaine Francisco delivered the goals for Kanoa-1, which was stunned early by TanHoldings after Christine Barrozo scored with less than a minute gone by in the first half. Joyce's goal in the second minute tied the match, while Francisco

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4 Tsunami Saipan swimmers triumph in Guam meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan earned top honors in four divisions and posted a couple of CNMI age group marks during last weekend's Guam Championships 2018 at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.

Tsunami Saipan

Maria Batallones, Ashley Dangol, Isaiah Aleksenko, and Juhn Tenorio ruled their respective categories, while sisters Nanaka and Aika Watanabe registered age group records, which await confirmation from Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation.

Batallones won a close fight for the high point award in the girls U7 division after collecting 65 points against the 63 of Manhoben Swim Club's Mia Lee. Points were given to swimmers based on how they finished in their races. Another Tsunami Saipan swimmer made it to the podium with Fiona Regan placing third

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members and coach Hiro Kimura pose for a group photo after competing in the Guam Championships 2018 over the weekend at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.